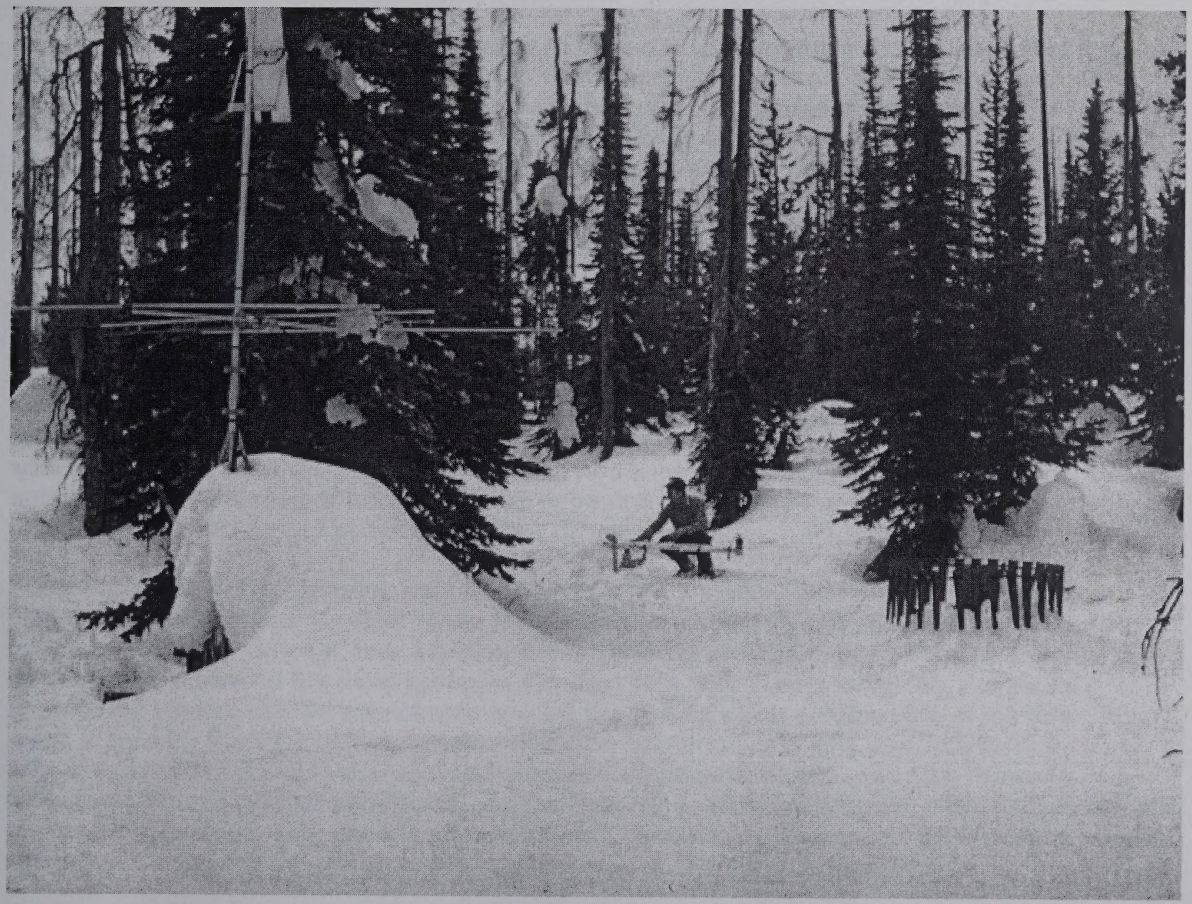
USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Montana Water Supply Outlook Report March 1, 2004



Picture: Black Bear SNOTEL Site - Winter of 1997

Water Supply Outlook Report
and
Federal - State - Private
Cooperative Snow Surveys

For more water supply and resource management information, contact:
See Attached List

How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the Western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated high in the mountains during winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Predictions are based on careful measurements of snow water equivalent at selected index points. Precipitation, temperature, soil moisture and antecedent streamflow data are combined with snowpack data to prepare runoff forecasts. Streamflow forecasts are coordinated by Natural Resources Conservation Service and National Weather Service hydrologists. This report presents a comprehensive picture of water supply conditions for areas dependent upon surface runoff. It includes selected streamflow forecasts, summarized snowpack and precipitation data, reservoir storage data, and narratives describing current conditions.

Snowpack data are obtained by using a combination of manual and automated SNOTEL measurement methods. Manual readings of snow depth and water equivalent are taken at locations called snow courses on a monthly or semi-monthly schedule during the winter. In addition, snow water equivalent, precipitation and temperature are monitored on a daily basis and transmitted via meteor burst telemetry to central data collection facilities. Both monthly and daily data are used to project snowmelt runoff.

Forecast uncertainty originates from two sources: (1) uncertainty of future hydrologic and climatic conditions, and (2) error in the forecasting procedure. To express the uncertainty in the most probable forecast, four additional forecasts are provided. The actual streamflow can be expected to exceed the most probable forecast 50% of the time. Similarly, the actual streamflow volume can be expected to exceed the 90% forecast volume 90% of the time. The same is true for the 70%, 30%, and 10% forecasts. Generally, the 90% and 70% forecasts reflect drier than normal hydrologic and climatic conditions; the 30% and 10% forecasts reflect wetter than normal conditions. As the forecast season progresses, a greater portion of the future hydrologic and climatic uncertainty will become known and the additional forecasts will move closer to the most probable forecast.

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United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Bozeman, Montana

(406) 587-6811
10 E Babcock
Federal Bldg Room 443
Bozeman MT 59715

Where to Get More Information

This contact list provides you with the names and phone numbers of individuals who can provide more detailed snow survey information for each county.

Beaverhead County
Victor Hager
683-3800

Big Horn County
Evan Van Order
665-3442

Blaine County
Matthew Crampton
357-2320

Broadwater County
Kelly Morris
266-3146

Carbon County
Gregory Evertz
962-3641

Carter County
Wayne Yost
775-6355

Cascade County
Marty Metz
727-7580

Chouteau County
Dan Van Voast
622-5627

Custer County
Terry Heck
232-7905

Daniels County
Stanley French
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Dawson County
Linda Peterson-Lohse
365-5566

Deer Lodge County
Glen Green
846-1703

Fallon County
Ann Fischer
778-2217

Fergus County
Patty Creamer
538-7401

Flathead County
Angel Rosario
752-4242

Gallatin County
Gordon Hill
522-4000

Garfield County
Sue Fitzgerald
557-2232

Glacier County
Mark Johnson
873-4292

Golden Valley County
John Rouane Jr.
323-2103

Granite County
Mary McDonald Pochelon
859-3291

Hill County
Deana Grabofsky
265-6792

Jefferson County
Julie Sacks
287-3215

Judith Basin County
Rick Caquelin
566-2311

Lake County
David Wolf
676-2841

Lewis and Clark County
Mindy Gauthier
449-5000

Liberty County
Dawn Wickum
759-5778

Lincoln County
Kirk Sullivan
296-2233

Madison County
Ole Berkram
842-5741

McCone County
Regan Fanning
485-2744

Meagher County
Tammy DeCock
547-3633

(over)

Mineral County
Tony Prince
829-3395

Missoula County
Tony Prince
829-3395

Musselshell County
John Rouane Jr.
323-2103

Park County
Ron Hoagland
222-2899

Petroleum County
Nikki Lott
429-6646

Phillips County
Lorna Philp
654-1334

Pondera County
Lanny Walker
278-3922

Powder River County
Carol Hilliard
436-2417

Powell County
Glen Green
846-1703

Prairie County
Bob Prongua
635-5381

Ravalli County
Lane Johnson
363-5010

Richland County
Jamie Selting
433-2103

Roosevelt County
Robert Bray
787-5232

Rosebud County
Rocky Schwagler
346-7333

Sanders County
Don Feist
826-3701

Sheridan County
Monica Friedrich
765-1801

Silver Bow County
Julie Sacks
287-3215

Stillwater County
Philip Sandoval
322-5359

Sweet Grass County
Chuck Roloff
932-5160

Teton County
Stacy Denny-Eneboe
466-5722

Toole County
Misty Vermulm
434-5234

Treasure County
Stewart Greer
342-5510

Valley County
Denise Wiedenheft
228-4321

Wheatland County
John Oiestad
632-5534

Wibaux County
Katrina Johnson
796-2211

Yellowstone County
Valerie Roberson
657-6135

12/19/02

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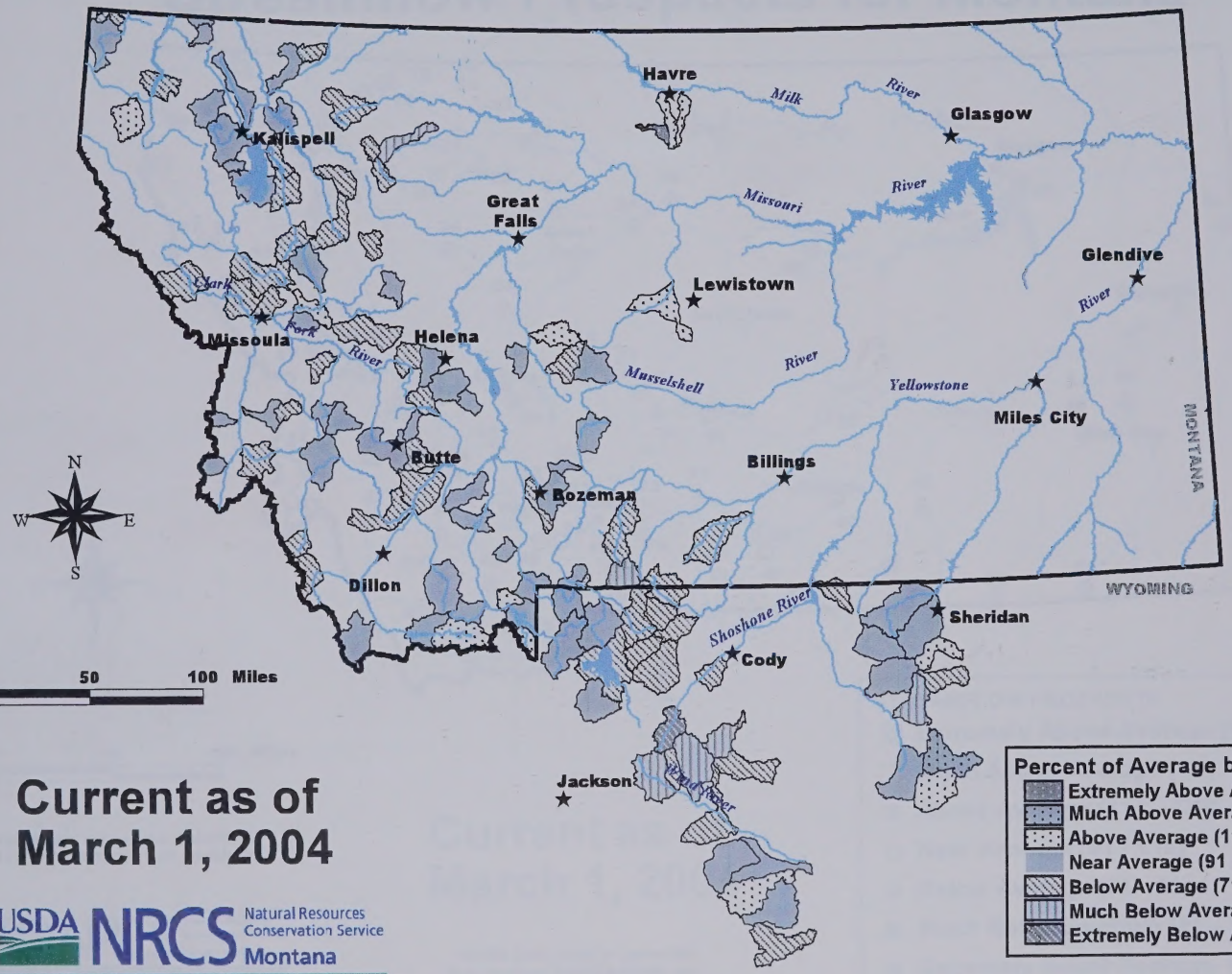
Mountain Snow Water Equivalent



Current as of March 1, 2004

Percent of Average by Sub-Basin

- Extremely Above Average (Over 150)
- Much Above Average (131 - 150)
- Above Average (111 - 130)
- Near Average (91 - 110)
- Below Average (71 - 90)
- Much Below Average (51 - 70)
- Extremely Below Average (Below 51)

USDA NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service Montana

http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov

NOTE: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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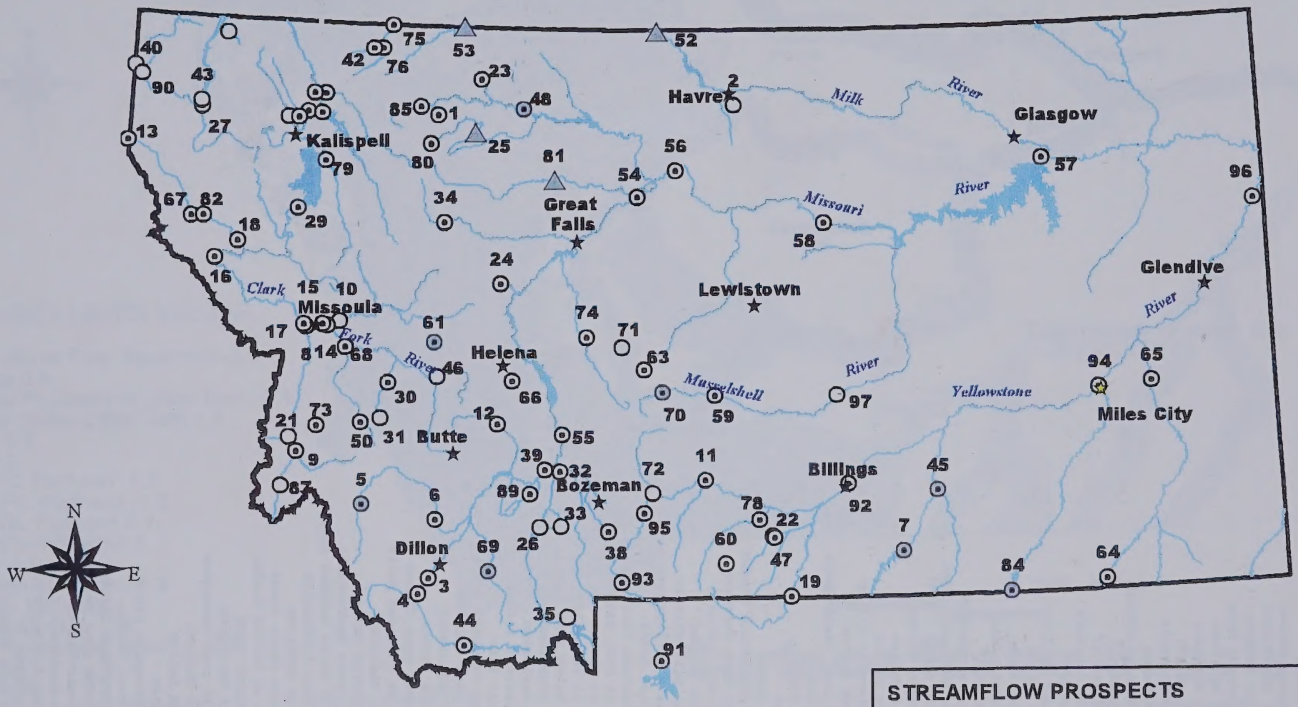
Streamflow Prospects for Montana



STREAMFLOW PROSPECTS

- Extremely Above Average (Over150)
- Much Above Average (131 - 150)
- Above Average (111 - 130)
- Near Average (91 - 110)
- Below Average (71 - 90)
- Much Below Average (51 - 70)
- Extremely Below Average (Below 51)

Numbers represent individual station identification numbers.

Current as of March 1, 2004

NOTE: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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Map #	Forecast Point
1	BADGER CREEK near Browning
2	BEAVER CREEK near Havre
3	BEAVERHEAD RIVER at Barretts
4	CLARK CANYON RES Inflow
5	BIG HOLE RIVER at Wisdom
6	BIG HOLE RIVER near Melrose
7	BIGHORN RIVER near St. Xavier
8	BITTERROOT at Missoula
9	BITTERROOT near Darby
10	BLACKFOOT RIVER near Bonner
11	BOULDER RIVER at Big Timber
12	BOULDER RIVER near Boulder
13	CLARK FK at Whitehorse Rpds
14	CLARK FORK above Milltown
15	CLARK FORK above Missoula
16	CLARK FORK at St. Regis
17	CLARK FORK below Missoula
18	CLARK FORK near Plains
19	CLARKS FORK RIVER near Belfry
21	COMO RESERVOIR Inflow
22	COONEY RESERVOIR Inflow
23	CUT BANK CREEK at Cut Bank
24	DEARBORN near Criag
25	DUPUYER CREEK near Valier
26	ENNIS Reservoir Inflow
27	FISHER RIVER near Libby
28	FLATHEAD at Columbia Falls
29	FLATHEAD Lake Inflow
30	FLINT CREEK below Boulder Ck
31	FLINT CREEK near Southern Cross
32	GALLATIN RIVER at Logan
33	GALLATIN RIVER near Gateway
34	GIBSON Reservoir Inflow
35	HEBGEN Reservoir Inflow
36	HUNGRY HORSE Reservoir Inflow
38	HYALITE RESERVOIR Inflow
39	JEFFERSON RIVER near Three Forks
40	KOOTENAI at Leonia
42	LAKE SHERBURNE Inflow
43	LIBBY RES Inflow
44	LIMA RESERVOIR Inflow
45	LITTLE BIGHORN RIVER near Hardin
46	LITTLE BLACKFOOT near Garrison
47	LOWER WILLOW CK RES Inflow
48	MARIAS RIVER near Shelby
49	MF FLATHEAD near West Glacier
50	MF ROCK CREEK near Philipsburg
52	MILK RIVER at East Cross.
53	MILK RIVER at Western Crossing
54	MISSOURI RIVER at Fort Benton
55	MISSOURI RIVER at Toston
56	MISSOURI RIVER at Virgelle
57	MISSOURI RIVER below Fort Peck
58	MISSOURI RIVER near Landusky
59	MUSSELSHELL at Harlowton
60	MYSTIC LAKE Reservoir Inflow
61	NEVADA CREEK near Finn
62	NF FLATHEAD near Columbia Falls
63	NF MUSSELSHELL near Delpine
64	POWDER RIVER at Moorehead
65	POWDER RIVER near Locate
66	PRICKLY PEAR CREEK near Clancy
67	PROSPECT CREEK at Thompson Falls
68	ROCK CREEK near Clinton
69	RUBY RIVER Reservoir Inflow
70	SF MUSSELSHELL above Martinsdale
71	SHEEP CREEK near White Sulphur Spgs.
72	SHIELDS RIVER near Livingston
73	SKALKAHO CK near Hamilton
74	SMITH RIVER above Eagle Creek
75	ST. MARY RIVER at US/CAN Border
76	ST. MARY RIVER near Babb
77	STILLWATER near Whitefish
78	STILLWATER RIVER near Absarokee
79	SWAN RIVER near Bigfork
80	SWIFT RESERVOIR Inflow
81	TETON near Dutton
82	THOMPSON near Thompson Falls
83	TOBACCO RIVER near Eureka
84	TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR Inflow
85	TWO MEDICINE RIVER near Browning
87	WF BITTERROOT near Conner
88	WHITEFISH near Kalispell
89	WILLOW CREEK Reservoir Inflow
90	YAAK RIVER near Troy
91	YELLOWSTONE at Lake Outlet
92	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings
93	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Corwin Spgs
94	YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Miles City
95	YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Livingston
96	YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Sidney

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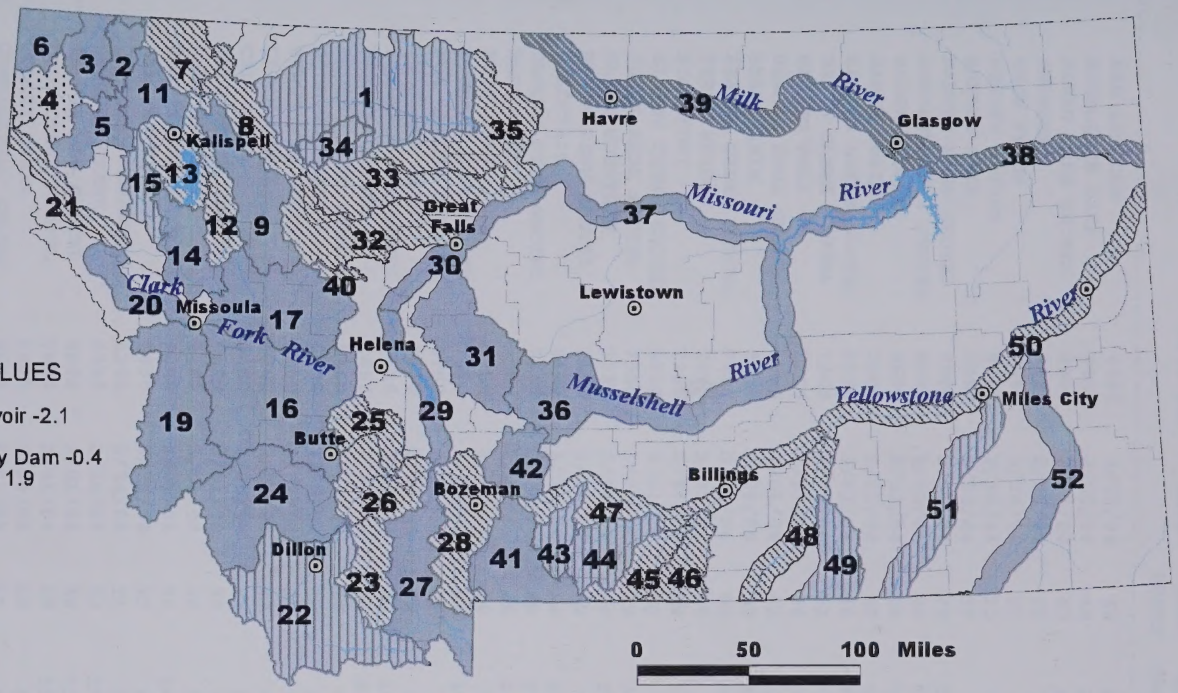

RIVER INDEX \ SWSI VALUES

1 Marias above Tiber Reservoir -2.1
2 Tobacco 0.5
3 Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam -0.4
4 Kootenai below Libby Dam 1.9
5 Fisher -0.7
6 Yaak 0.2
7 North FK. Flathead -1.1
8 Middle FK. Flathead -1.2
9 South FK. Flathead 0.1
11 Stillwater/Whitefish 0
12 Swan -1.9
13 Flathead at Polson -1.3
14 Mission Valley 0.2
15 Little Bitterroot -2.9
16 Clark Fork above Milltown -0.5
17 Blackfoot -0.3
19 Bitterroot -0.1
20 Clark Fork below Bitterroot -0.7
21 Clark Fork below Flathead -1.1
22 Beaverhead -2.9
23 Ruby -1.9
24 Big Hole -0.8
25 Boulder (Jefferson) -1
26 Jefferson -1.5
27 Madison 0.2
28 Gallatin -1.2
29 Missouri above Canyon Ferry -0.6
30 Missouri below Canyon Ferry -0.6
31 Smith -0.2
32 Sun -1.3
33 Teton -1.7
34 Birch/Dupuyer Creeks -2.4
35 Marias -1.7
36 Musselshell 0.1
37 Missouri above Fort Peck -0.7
38 Missouri below Fort Peck -3.9
39 Milk -3.3
40 Dearborn near Craig -1.4
41 Yellowstone above Livingston -0.5
42 Shields -0.2
43 Boulder (Yellowstone) -2.1
44 Stillwater -2.2
45 Rock/Red Lodge Creeks -1.4
46 Clarks Fork -1.9
47 Yellowstone above Bighorn -1.2
48 Bighorn below Bighorn Lake -1.5
49 Little Bighorn -2.3
50 Yellowstone below Bighorn -1.3
51 Tongue -2.2
52 Powder 0.4

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) Values

Current as of March 1, 2004

SWSI VALUES

- Extremely Dry -4.0 to -3.0
- Moderately Dry -2.9 to -2.0
- Slightly Dry -1.9 to -1.0
- Near Average -0.9 to 0.9
- Slightly Wet 1.0 to 1.9
- Moderately Wet 2.0 to 2.9
- Extremely Wet 3.0 to 4.0
- SWSI Not Applicable

NOTE: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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SNOTEL AND SNOW COURSE DATA

MARCH 2004

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
ABE LINCOLN	4440	2/25/04	48	15.4	8.3	17.0
ABUNDANCE LAKE	8800	2/25/04	46	12.9	14.8	16.7
ALBRO LAKE SNOTEL	8300	3/01/04	63	15.5	11.0	16.5
AMBROSE	6480	2/26/04	38	9.8	10.2	10.5
ARCH FALLS	7350	2/24/04	27	6.8	7.8	9.0
ASHLEY DIVIDE	4820	2/24/04	22	6.2	2.4	6.2
ASHLEY LAKE	4000	2/24/04	17	4.4	2.2	5.3
BADGER PASS SNOTEL	6900	3/01/04	62	23.2	17.8	29.7
BANFIELD MTN SNOTEL	5600	3/01/04	46	13.2	11.1	17.0
BAREE MIDWAY	4600	2/23/04	80	29.3	18.5	28.7
BAREE TRAIL	3800	2/23/04	33	11.6	5.9	8.2
BARKER LAKES SNOTEL	8250	3/01/04	46	10.3	10.2	11.1
BASIN CREEK SNOTEL	7180	3/01/04	31	6.1	6.2	6.1
BASSOO PEAK	5150	2/27/04	28	7.2	6.4	9.0
BEAGLE SPGS SNOTEL	8850	3/01/04	42	7.6	6.2	7.0
BEAR BASIN	8150	2/26/04	50	16.0	13.8	16.6
BEAVER CREEK SNOTEL	7850	3/01/04	62	15.5	11.2	14.5
BERRY MEADOW	7000	2/23/04	20	5.3	6.3	5.9
BIG SNOWY	7150	2/26/04	50	17.6	16.1	15.3
BISSON CREEK SNOTEL	4920	3/01/04	30	9.0	6.2	8.7
BLACK BEAR SNOTEL	7950	3/01/04	113	37.2	26.7	32.9
BLACK MOUNTAIN	7750	2/24/04	40	11.0	11.8	11.4
BLACK PINE SNOTEL	7100	3/01/04	32	8.0	9.8	10.1
BLACKTAIL	5650	2/24/04	34	11.6	7.7	12.3
BLOODY DICK SNOTEL	7550	3/01/04	40	10.0	11.2	10.6
BLUE LAKE	5900	2/23/04	45	14.8	10.9	21.1
BOTS SOTS	7750	3/01/04	40	4.2	6.7	6.2
BOULDER MTN SNOTEL	7950	3/01/04	54	15.8	15.5	16.6
BOX CANYON SNOTEL	6700	2/23/04	25	6.7	7.7	8.5
BOXELDER CREEK	5100	2/25/04	32	8.6	3.4	6.5
BRACKETT CR SNOTEL	7320	3/01/04	53	15.3	17.0	17.0
BRANHAM LAKES	8850	3/01/04	75	25.8	20.6	23.6
BRUSH CREEK TIMBER	5000	2/24/04	26	6.4	3.5	7.5
BULL MOUNTAIN	6600	2/26/04	18	3.0	6.2	5.1
BURNT MTN SNOTEL	5880	3/01/04	38	5.9	4.8	--
CABIN CREEK	5200	2/24/04	16	4.2	2.2	5.4
CALL ROAD	8050	2/25/04	28	6.7	8.7	9.2
CALVERT CR SNOTEL	6430	3/01/04	35	7.9	7.3	7.5
CAMP SENIA	7890	3/01/04	30	3.8	5.6	4.6
CARROT BASIN SNOTEL	9000	3/01/04	86	24.0	16.5	22.6
CARTER CREEK	7400	2/24/04	17	4.0	3.7	4.2
CHESSMAN RESERVOIR	6200	2/24/04	11	2.9	2.0	3.1
CHICKEN CREEK	4060	2/26/04	53	17.1	11.1	14.4
CLOVER MDW SNOTEL	8800	3/01/04	46	12.0	12.2	14.2
COLE CREEK SNOTEL	7850	3/01/04	60	10.5	14.5	12.0
COLLEY CREEK	6300	2/24/04	24	6.4	6.3	7.0
COMBINATION SNOTEL	5600	3/01/04	17	4.8	5.6	4.5
COPPER BOTTOM SNOTEL	5200	3/01/04	32	9.3	6.8	9.9
COPPER CAMP SNOTEL	6950	3/01/04	94	35.9	20.3	27.8
COPPER CREEK	5700	2/27/04	30	9.5	5.6	12.5
COPPER MOUNTAIN	7700	2/21/04	31	8.0	7.9	8.9
COTTONWOOD CREEK	6400	2/24/04	27	7.4	6.2	6.0
COYOTE HILL	4200	2/25/04	31	9.2	5.4	9.1
CREVICE MOUNTAIN	8400	2/26/04	26	6.4	8.6	9.0
CRYSTAL LAKE SNOTEL	6050	3/01/04	49	14.0	11.3	9.6
DAD CREEK LAKE	8400	2/25/04	37	9.4	9.4	11.2
DAISY PEAK SNOTEL	7600	3/01/04	36	9.0	6.8	8.7
DALY CREEK SNOTEL	5780	3/01/04	33	9.3	9.6	9.4
DARKHORSE LK. SNOTEL	8700	3/01/04	71	22.3	24.1	26.6
DAVIS CREEK	5400	2/26/04	57	18.6	16.9	20.7

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
DEADMAN CR SNOTEL	6450	3/01/04	35	9.7	7.9	8.5
DESERT MOUNTAIN	5600	2/25/04	41	12.7	8.6	12.6
DISCOVERY BASIN	7050	2/23/04	34	8.8	9.1	8.4
DIVIDE SNOTEL	7800	3/01/04	38	8.4	6.6	8.7
DIX HILL	6400	2/29/04	29	8.0	7.6	10.0
DUPUYER CREEK SNOTEL	5750	3/01/04	18	5.7	3.4	9.2
EAGLE CREEK	7000	2/26/04	35	11.4	--	--
EAST FORK R.S.	5400	2/23/04	25	5.8	5.3	5.6
EL DORADO MINE	7800	2/28/04	54	15.5	15.6	15.8
ELK HORN SPRINGS	7800	2/25/04	26	5.3	8.0	7.6
ELK PEAK	8000	2/25/04	35	10.0	10.8	12.6
EMERY CREEK SNOTEL	4350	3/01/04	50	15.0	9.5	13.3
FATTY CREEK	5500	3/01/04	---	19.0E	14.9	20.4
FISH CREEK	8000	2/24/04	25	6.4	6.6	7.8
FISHER CREEK SNOTEL	9100	3/01/04	80	25.7	26.5	29.6
FIVE-BULL	5700	2/27/04	16	4.5	1.3	5.3
FLATTOP MTN SNOTEL	6300	3/01/04	97	32.8	30.4	39.2
FLEECER RIDGE	7500	2/26/04	29	8.0	8.8	9.2
FOOLHEN	8280	2/25/04	41	10.5	11.4	13.2
FOREST LAKE	6400	2/26/04	30	9.4	--	--
FOUR MILE	6900	2/25/04	28	7.4	6.3	6.8
FOURTH OF JULY	3450	2/25/04	27	9.0	4.1	8.4
FREIGHT CREEK	6000	2/23/04	33	10.4	5.4	12.6
FROHNER MDWS SNOTEL	6480	3/01/04	26	6.2	6.3	6.3
GARVER CREEK SNOTEL	4250	3/01/04	32	8.1	7.5	9.1
GOAT MOUNTAIN	7000	2/23/04	28	8.0	4.1	8.7
GRASSHOPPER	7000	2/25/04	17	4.5	3.9	4.7
GRAVE CRK SNOTEL	4300	3/01/04	54	16.1	11.6	14.5
GRIFFIN CR DIVIDE	5150	2/27/04	26	7.1	4.5	9.5
HAND CREEK SNOTEL	5030	3/01/04	34	9.6	5.7	9.9
HAWKINS LAKE SNOTEL	6450	3/01/04	60	18.4	16.8	23.1
HAYMAKER	8050	2/25/04	37	10.5	--	--
HEBGEN DAM	6550	3/01/04	49	12.4	6.6	10.8
HELL ROARING DIVIDE	5770	2/25/04	66	23.9	20.0	25.8
HERRIG JUNCTION	4850	2/26/04	69	21.1	19.4	22.2
HOLBROOK	4530	2/29/04	24	7.4	5.1	8.3
HOODOO BASIN SNOTEL	6050	3/01/04	90	30.5	23.4	38.6
ICEBERG LAKE NO 3	5600	3/03/04	72	24.6	18.8	--
INDEPENDENCE	7850	2/23/04	44	11.6	13.3	15.0
INTERGAARD	6450	2/29/04	25	5.5	5.8	6.2
JOHNSON PARK	6450	2/25/04	21	6.2	4.8	5.4
JOSEPHINE LOWER NO 9	4900	3/02/04	36	11.0	6.8	--
KISHENEHN	3890	2/28/04	33	8.7	4.7	7.3
KRAFT CREEK SNOTEL	4750	3/01/04	35	11.6	10.0	13.6
LAKE CREEK	6100	2/25/04	28	6.0	5.0	7.4
LAKEVIEW CANYON	6930	2/27/04	42	9.7	5.7	8.5
LAKEVIEW RDG. SNOTEL	7400	3/01/04	51	11.0	6.7	9.2
LEMHI RIDGE SNOTEL	8100	3/01/04	34	7.8	10.1	8.7
LICK CREEK SNOTEL	6860	3/01/04	38	8.7	9.7	9.5
LITTLE PARK	7400	2/26/04	42	12.3	10.3	13.0
LOGAN CREEK	4300	2/24/04	25	6.7	3.7	6.2
LONE MOUNTAIN SNOTEL	8880	3/01/04	50	14.4	12.2	15.0
LOWER TWIN SNOTEL	7900	3/01/04	55	14.2	12.4	15.1
LUBRECHT SNOTEL	4680	3/01/04	19	5.4	4.2	5.3
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 3	5450	2/27/04	18	4.6	3.6	5.6
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 4	4650	2/27/04	9	2.5	1.6	2.7
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 6	4040	2/26/04	10	3.1	1.8	3.2
LUBRECHT HYDROPLOT	4200	2/26/04	16	4.5	3.6	5.1
MADISON PLT SNOTEL	7750	3/01/04	76	22.8	14.6	20.9
MANY GLACIER SNOTEL	4900	3/01/04	39	10.8	7.0	14.4
MARIAS PASS	5250	3/02/04	43	12.5	7.3	14.9
MIDDLE MILL CREEK	7850	3/01/04	49	14.2	13.2	13.3
MILL CREEK	7500	2/24/04	34	9.2	10.0	10.2
MINERAL CREEK	4000	2/28/04	55	17.8	11.8	15.8

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
MONUMENT PK SNOTEL	8850	2/23/04	53	15.3	15.4	17.2
MOSS PEAK SNOTEL	6780	3/01/04	79	26.3	23.0	31.3
MOULTON RESERVOIR	6850	2/24/04	28	7.1	7.6	6.2
MOUNT ALLEN NO 7	5700	3/02/04	91	31.6	24.6	--
MT LOCKHART SNOTEL	6400	3/01/04	49	15.3	11.7	17.6
MULE CREEK SNOTEL	8300	3/01/04	41	9.9	11.8	13.1
N.E. ENTRANCE SNOTEL	7350	3/01/04	27	6.4	8.5	9.7
NEVADA RIDGE SNOTEL	7020	3/01/04	43	11.5	11.5	13.2
NEW WORLD	6900	2/23/04	38	11.3	12.0	11.1
NEWTON MOUNTAIN	5600	2/25/04	71	25.1	19.2	28.8
NEZ PERCE CMP SNOTEL	5650	3/01/04	42	12.4	10.2	12.7
NEZ PERCE CREEK	6600	2/21/04	23	6.0	5.8	5.6
NEZ PERCE PASS	6570	2/27/04	43	13.5	12.7	15.7
N.F. ELK CR SNOTEL	6250	3/01/04	36	9.8	8.7	10.2
NF JOCKO SNOTEL	6330	3/01/04	90	34.7	27.7	38.5
NOISY BASIN SNOTEL	6040	3/01/04	89	29.9	24.4	33.8
NOTCH	8500	2/25/04	45	12.2	11.8	12.4
OPHIR PARK	7150	2/29/04	38	10.7	10.2	14.1
PETERSON MDW SNOTEL	7200	3/01/04	35	7.8	9.1	7.8
PICKET PIN LOWER	6200	3/02/04	28	3.6	--	--
PICKET PIN MIDDLE	7250	3/02/04	55	10.5	--	--
PICKET PIN UPPER	8100	3/02/04	69	13.7	--	--
PICKFOOT CRK SNOTEL	6650	3/01/04	---	9.3	8.8	9.9
PIEGAN PASS NO 6	5500	3/02/04	71	25.2	21.0	--
PIKE CREEK SNOTEL	5930	3/01/04	55	18.7	13.1	22.8
PIPESTONE PASS	7200	2/22/04	14	3.0	3.4	4.1
PLACER BASIN SNOTEL	8830	3/01/04	73	13.5	12.5	14.2
POORMAN CR SNOTEL	5100	3/01/04	93	34.1	20.4	28.2
PORCUPINE SNOTEL	6500	3/01/04	30	7.0	6.0	5.8
POTOMAGETON PARK	7150	2/26/04	44	14.7	9.3	12.1
PTARMIGAN	5800	3/03/04	69	25.1	19.4	--
RED TOP	5260	2/25/04	63	21.4	15.8	23.8
REVAIS CREEK	4800	3/03/04	10	2.6	1.0	3.1
ROCK CREEK	5600	2/26/04	38	11.5	9.8	8.4
ROCK CREEK MEADOW	8160	2/25/04	48	12.8	12.8	16.6
ROCKER PEAK SNOTEL	8000	3/01/04	39	9.4	10.8	11.2
ROCKY BOY SNOTEL	4700	3/01/04	19	5.7	2.9	4.3
SACAJAWEA	6550	2/25/04	34	11.0	11.6	11.2
SACAJAWEA SNOTEL	6550	3/01/04	45	12.1	12.3	12.0
SADDLE MTN SNOTEL	7900	3/01/04	67	19.1	20.7	21.8
S.F. SHIELDS SNOTEL	8100	3/01/04	60	13.0	11.7	13.6
SHORT CREEK SNOTEL	7000	3/01/04	25	4.9	4.6	4.9
SHOWER FALLS SNOTEL	8100	3/01/04	61	13.4	15.4	17.4
SKALKAHO SNOTEL	7260	3/01/04	52	16.3	18.1	20.2
SLEEPING WOMAN SNTL	6150	3/01/04	38	11.2	9.8	14.0
SLIDE ROCK MOUNTAIN	7100	3/01/04	36	9.6	10.0	12.6
SMUGGLER MINE	6960	3/01/04	37	9.4	8.2	8.1
SPOTTED BEAR MTN.	7000	2/23/04	37	11.6	9.2	12.7
SPUR PARK SNOTEL	8100	3/01/04	55	15.4	14.5	17.7
STAHL PEAK SNOTEL	6030	3/01/04	86	26.6	23.2	29.9
STEMPLE PASS	6600	2/23/04	26	6.6	5.6	8.3
STORM LAKE	7780	2/23/04	38	9.0	9.8	10.2
STRYKER BASIN	6180	2/26/04	73	23.4	20.0	26.9
STUART MOUNTAIN SNTL	7400	3/01/04	74	24.3	22.1	28.9
SUCKER CREEK	3960	2/25/04	11	2.8	1.0	.3
TAYLOR ROAD	4080	2/25/04	20	5.6	2.0	2.7
TEN MILE LOWER	6600	2/24/04	23	5.9	6.0	5.9
TEN MILE MIDDLE	6800	2/24/04	28	7.4	7.6	8.9
TEPEE CREEK SNOTEL	8000	3/01/04	48	12.2	8.6	10.7
TIMBERLINE CREEK	8850	3/01/04	---	9.7E	10.9	11.0
TIZER BASIN SNOTEL	6840	3/01/04	32	7.5	7.7	7.9
TRAIL CREEK	7090	2/25/04	26	5.2	9.4	7.0
TRINKUS LAKE	6100	2/23/04	86	32.6	26.4	36.4
TRUMAN CREEK	4060	2/24/04	16	4.8	2.4	4.4

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
TV MOUNTAIN	6800	3/01/04	---	12.7E	10.3	15.2
TWELVEMILE SNOTEL	5600	3/01/04	50	15.9	11.9	16.0
TWENTY-ONE MILE	7150	3/01/04	51	15.0	9.1	14.3
TWIN CREEKS	3580	2/23/04	34	10.8	4.2	10.2
TWIN LAKES SNOTEL	6400	3/01/04	89	35.0	29.8	34.7
UPPER HOLLAND LAKE	6200	2/23/04	73	27.4	23.2	30.0
WALDRON SNOTEL	5600	3/01/04	33	8.9	6.0	9.7
WARM SPRINGS SNOTEL	7800	3/01/04	57	16.4	17.4	17.0
WEASEL DIVIDE	5450	2/27/04	79	26.2	17.4	28.7
WEST YELL'ST SNOTEL	6700	3/01/04	45	11.5	7.5	11.2
WHISKEY CREEK SNOTEL	6800	3/01/04	59	16.4	9.9	14.4
WHITE MILL SNOTEL	8700	3/01/04	56	15.5	20.1	20.3
WHITE PINE RIDGE	8850	2/25/04	20	3.4	3.9	4.7
WILLOW CREEK	6500	3/01/04	32	6.6	8.2	6.3
WOOD CREEK SNOTEL	5960	3/01/04	34	7.4	4.3	8.2
WRONG CREEK	5700	2/25/04	35	10.6	6.0	11.0

Montana Water Supply Outlook Report as of March 1, 2004

Overall, February did not add significant snowfall to the mountain snowpack. In most basins the March 1 percent of average were below those on February 1. This was not due to snowmelt but from lack of snowfall during the month. February precipitation west of the divide was well below average and east of the divide was below average.

Snowpack

By March 1 there are normally about four to six weeks remaining in the annual snowfall season. State-wide, mountain snow water content was 94 percent of average and 118 percent of last year. West of the Continental Divide, snowpack was 93 percent of average and 126 percent of last year and east of the Continental Divide, snowpack was 93 percent of average and 111 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	% OF AVERAGE	% OF LAST YEAR	FEBRUARY % CHANGE
COLUMBIA	93	126	-7
KOOTENAI, MONTANA	96	138	-5
KOOTENAI, CANADA	83	127	-13
FLATHEAD, MONTANA	91	131	-8
FLATHEAD, CANADA	99	163	+4
UPPER CLARK FORK	92	109	-8
BITTERROOT	93	107	-11
LOWER CLARK FORK	97	146	-8
MISSOURI	97	119	-6
MISSOURI HEADWATERS	96	112	-4
JEFFERSON	93	102	+3
MADISON	103	137	-4
GALLATIN	94	110	-2
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	99	132	-9
HEADWATERS MAINSTEM	90	100	-5
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	106	113	-3
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	82	149	-15
MILK	168	245	+12
BEARPAW MOUNTAINS	164	244	-5
CYPRESS HILLS, CANADA	165	247	+15
ST. MARY	88	128	-4
ST. MARY & MILK	112	143	-4
YELLOWSTONE	88	98	+3
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	85	92	-3
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	87	100	+5
WIND	83	101	+4
SHOSHONE	74	85	-7
BIGHORN	84	96	0
TONGUE	95	102	+17
POWDER	101	123	+10

Precipitation

February mountain and valley precipitation across the state was 68 percent of average and 66 percent of last year, while the water year precipitation was 93 percent of average and 121 percent of last year. West of the Continental Divide, February mountain and valley precipitation was 53 percent of average and 66 percent of last year and the water year precipitation was 90 percent of average and 120 percent of last year. East of the Divide, February mountain and valley precipitation was 84 percent of average and 66 percent of last year and the water year precipitation was 97 percent of average and 122 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	FEBRUARY % OF AVERAGE	WATER YEAR % OF AVERAGE
COLUMBIA	53	90
KOOTENAI	39	92
FLATHEAD	54	90
UPPER CLARK FORK	70	91
BITTERROOT	56	92
LOWER CLARK FORK	48	90
MISSOURI	80	99
JEFFERSON	92	93
MADISON	100	104
GALLATIN	105	94
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	63	99
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	79	109
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	32	87
MILK	67	138
ST. MARY	39	84
YELLOWSTONE	104	90
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	84	89
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	118	90

Reservoirs

Major reservoir storages state-wide were 84 percent of average and 91 percent of last year. Reservoir storage west of the Continental Divide was 134 percent of average and 94 percent of last year. East of the Continental Divide, reservoir storages were 70 percent of average and 90 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	% OF AVERAGE	% OF LAST YEAR
COLUMBIA	134	94
KOOTENAI	173	95
FLATHEAD	112	92
UPPER CLARK FORK	95	91
BITTERROOT	67	93
LOWER CLARK FORK	110	106
MISSOURI	70	89
JEFFERSON	38	83
MADISON	106	100
GALLATIN	133	103
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	68	90
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	39	108
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	101	86
MILK	48	47
ST. MARY	57	118
YELLOWSTONE	86	115
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	106	92
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	86	116

Streamflow

Streamflows across Montana are forecast to average 77 to 91 percent of normal. West of the Continental Divide, streamflows are forecast to average 89 to 100 percent of normal and east of the Continental Divide, streamflows are forecast to average 77 to 92 percent of normal.

Streams are expected to have higher flows than last year but are expected to be near to below average. Even though streamflows are expected to be better than last year, shortages are still likely to occur in late summer, depending upon spring and summer rain.

Below are river basin streamflow forecast summaries for the period April 1 through July 31. THESE FORECASTS ASSUME NEAR NORMAL SPRING CONDITIONS AND DO NOT ACCOUNT FOR WELL BELOW AVERAGE (70% or less) OR WELL ABOVE AVERAGE (130% or more) SNOWMELT OR SPRING RAIN. Specific forecast probabilities are available in each individual River Basin Report.

RIVER BASIN	April-July THIS YEAR % OF AVERAGE	April-July LAST YEAR % OF AVERAGE
COLUMBIA	89 to 100	57 to 66
KOOTENAI	93 to 102	55 to 64
FLATHEAD	86 to 95	53 to 59
UPPER CLARK FORK	89 to 105	59 to 71
BITTERROOT	92 to 102	71 to 80
LOWER CLARK FORK	87 to 97	53 to 60
MISSOURI	75 to 92	40 to 52
JEFFERSON	75 to 95	41 to 56
MADISON	96 to 104	60 to 68
GALLATIN	84 to 94	59 to 70
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	83 to 98	41 to 54
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	86 to 103	36 to 46
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	66 to 85	33 to 47
MILK	42 to 58	38 to 45
ST. MARY	82 to 89	60 to 67
YELLOWSTONE	81 to 93	55 to 65
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	85 to 96	66 to 76
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	76 to 90	40 to 50

NOTE: The *APRIL-JULY LAST YEAR % OF AVERAGE* column above is what was forecast last year, not what actually occurred.

Surface Water Supply Index

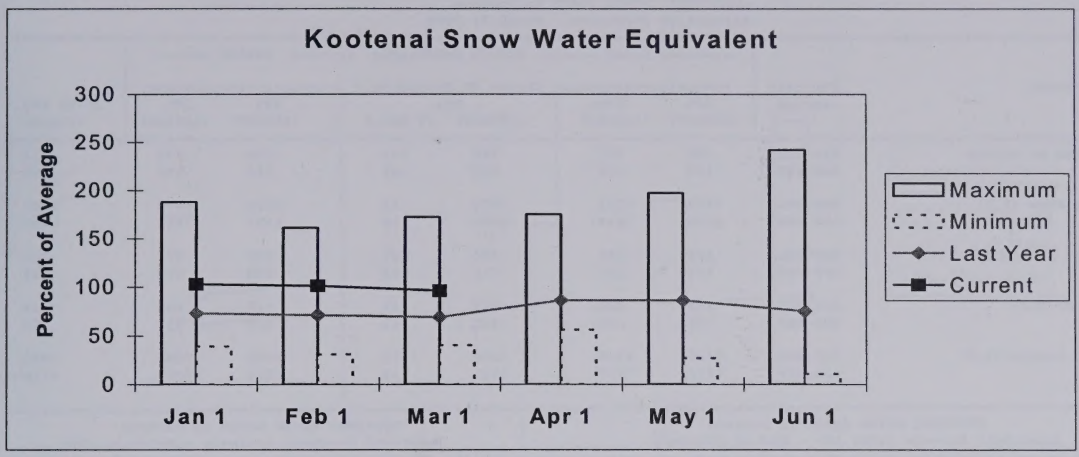
The Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) is a measure of available surface water availability for the spring and summer months. Water users that rely on mountain precipitation can use the index to evaluate seasonal surface water supplies. The SWSI accounts for mountain snowpack, mountain precipitation, streamflow, reservoir storage, and soil moisture.

SWSI RATING	SURFACE WATER CONDITION
+3.0 to +4.0	Extremely Wet
+2.0 to +2.9	Moderately Wet
+1.0 to +1.9	Slightly Wet
-0.9 to +0.9	Near Average
-1.0 to -1.9	Slightly Dry
-2.0 to -2.9	Moderately Dry
-3.0 to -4.0	Extremely Dry

This Year SWSI	Last Year SWSI	Basin
+0.5	-3.3	Tobacco River
-0.4	-0.4	Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam
+1.9	-0.4	Kootenai River below Libby Dam
-0.7	-2.9	Fisher River
+0.2	-3.1	Yaak River
-1.1	-3.3	North Fork Flathead River
-1.2	-3.2	Middle FORK Flathead River
+0.1	-2.3	South Fork Flathead River
-0.2	-3.1	Flathead River at Columbia Falls
0.0	-3.5	Stillwater/Whitefish Rivers
-1.9	-3.9	Swan River
-1.3	-3.2	Flathead River at Polson
+0.2	-2.4	Mission Valley
-2.9	-2.7	Little Bitterroot River
-0.5	-2.8	Clark Fork River above Milltown
-0.3	-3.3	Blackfoot River
-0.1	-2.3	Bitterroot River
-0.7	-2.9	Clark Fork River below Bitterroot River
-1.1	-3.1	Clark Fork River below Flathead River
-2.9	-4.0	Beaverhead River
-1.9	-3.7	Ruby River
-0.8	-1.8	Big Hole River
-1.0	-1.8	Boulder River (Jefferson)
-1.5	-1.9	Jefferson River
+0.2	-1.9	Madison River
-1.2	-2.1	Gallatin River
-0.6	-2.3	Missouri River above Canyon Ferry
-0.6	-1.7	Missouri River below Canyon Ferry
-0.2	-1.9	Smith River
-1.3	-3.9	Sun River
-1.7	-2.6	Teton River
-2.4	-2.4	Birch/Dupuyer Creeks
-2.1	-2.2	Marias River above Tiber
-1.7	-1.2	Marias River below Tiber
+0.1	-2.9	Musselshell River
-0.7	-0.8	Missouri River above Ft. Peck
-3.9	-3.0	Missouri River below Ft. Peck
-3.3	-1.9	Milk River
-1.4	-2.7	Dearborn River near Craig
-0.5	-2.3	Yellowstone River above Livingston
-0.2	-2.3	Shields River
-2.1	-2.8	Boulder River (Yellowstone)
-2.2	-2.6	Stillwater River
-1.4	-1.8	Rock/Red Lodge Creeks
-1.9	-2.6	Clarks Fork River
-1.2	-2.4	Yellowstone River above Bighorn River
-1.5	-3.7	Bighorn River below Bighorn Lake
-2.3	-2.3	Little Bighorn River
-1.3	-3.0	Yellowstone River below Bighorn River
-2.2	-2.9	Tongue River
+0.4	-3.2	Powder River

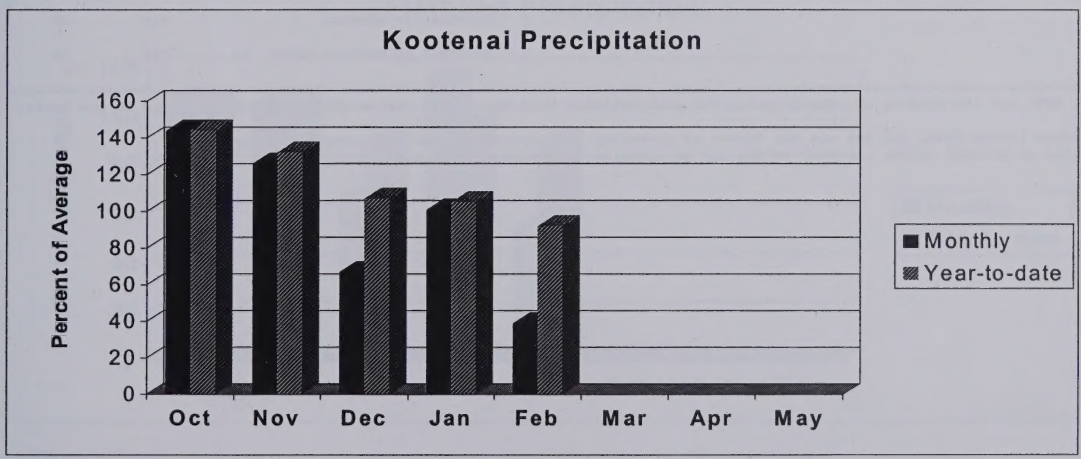
Kootenai River Basin in Montana

Snowpack conditions in the Kootenai River Basin were near average and decreased 5 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 96 percent of average and 138 percent of last year. Snow water content in the Kootenay in Canada was 83 percent of average and 127 percent of last year and decreased 13 percent from February 1.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 2001; May maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 39 percent of average and 79 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 35 percent of average and 118 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 92 percent of average and 132 percent of last year.



Lake Koocanusa storage was 173 percent of average and 95 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 93 percent to 102 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was +0.5 in the Tobacco River; -0.4 in the Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam; +1.9 in the Kootenai River below Libby Dam; -0.7 in the Fisher River; and +0.2 in the Yaak River.

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
TOBACCO RIVER nr Eureka	APR-JUL	105	126	140	103	154	175	136
	APR-SEP	114	138	154	103	170	194	150
LIBBY RES Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	3770	4730	5170	92	5610	6570	5640
	APR-SEP	4680	5640	6080	92	6520	7480	6640
FISHER RIVER nr Libby	APR-JUL	123	169	200	87	230	275	230
	APR-SEP	134	182	215	88	250	295	245
YAAK RIVER nr Troy	APR-JUL	310	365	405	92	445	500	440
	APR-SEP	330	385	425	92	465	520	460
KOOTENAI at Leonia (1,2)	APR-JUL	5440	6170	6500	92	6830	7560	7040
	APR-SEP	7510	7530	7540	93	7550	7570	8120

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LAKE KOOCANUSA	5748.0	3364.0	3557.0	1950.0

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

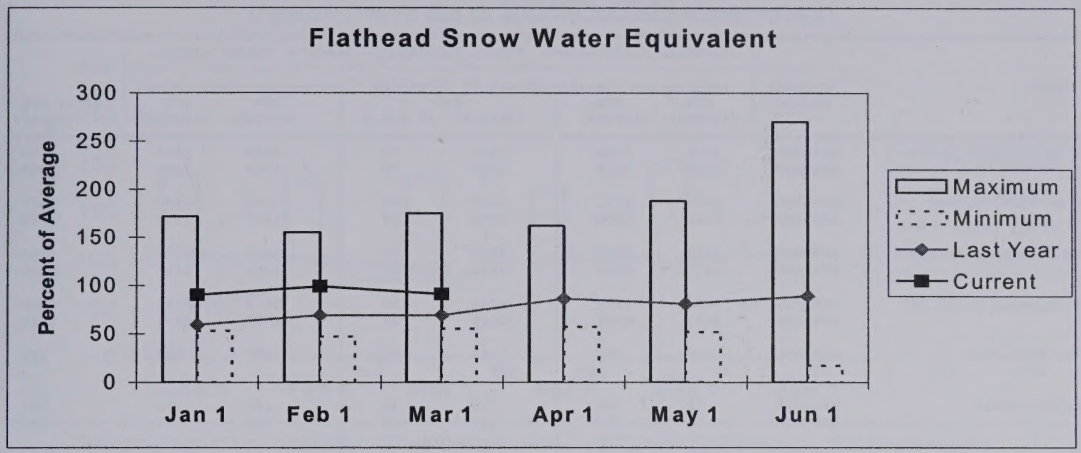
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
KOOTENAY in CANADA	14	128	84
KOOTENAI MAINSTEM	3	138	102
TOBACCO	3	132	94
FISHER	4	169	105
YAAK	7	131	89
KOOTENAI in MONTANA	17	138	96
KOOTENAI ab BONNERS FERRY	31	135	91

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

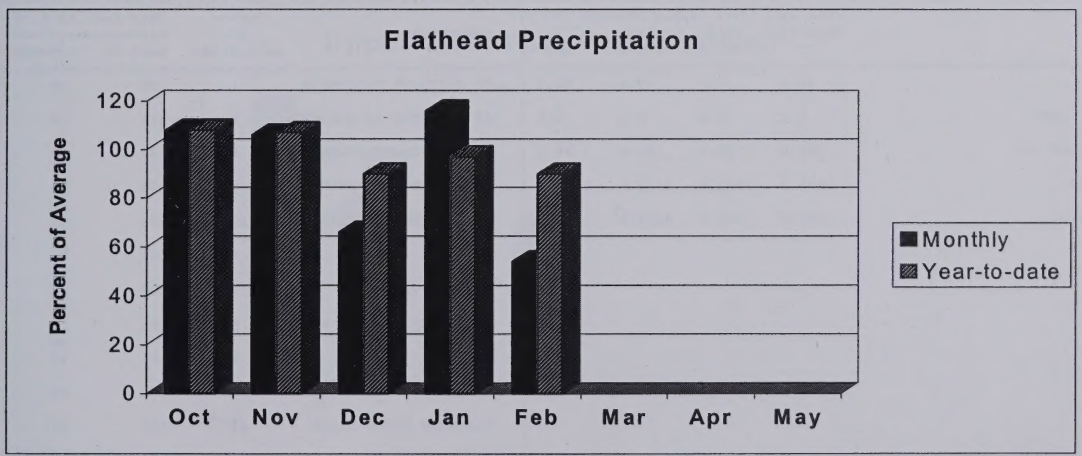
Flathead River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Flathead River Basin were below average and decreased 8 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 91 percent of average and 131 percent of last year. Snow water content in the North Fork Flathead River in Canada was 99 percent of average and 163 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum was in 2001; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 2001; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 2001; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 2001; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1992; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum was in 1992. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 55 percent of average and 80 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 41 percent of average and 79 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 90 percent of average and 134 percent of last year.



Combined Camas reservoir storage was 35 percent of average and 45 percent of last year; Lower Jocko Lake was 0 percent of average and 100 percent of last year; combined Mission Valley reservoir storage was 70 percent of average and 91 percent of last year; Hungry Horse storage was 119 percent of average and 103 percent of last year; and Flathead Lake storage was 97 percent of average and 68 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 86 percent to 95 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.1 in the North Fork Flathead River; -1.2 in the Middle Fork Flathead River; +0.1 in the South Fork Flathead River; -0.2 in the Flathead River at Columbia Falls; 0.0 in the Stillwater/Whitefish Rivers; -1.9 in the Swan River; -1.3 in the Flathead River at Polson; +0.2 in the Mission Valley; and -2.9 in the Little Bitterroot River.

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
NF FLATHEAD nr Columbia Falls	APR-JUL	1210	1350	1450	90	1550	1690	1620
	APR-SEP	1360	1510	1620	90	1730	1880	1800
MF FLATHEAD nr West Glacier	APR-JUL	1190	1330	1420	89	1510	1650	1590
	APR-SEP	1300	1450	1550	89	1650	1800	1740
HUNGRY HORSE Reservoir Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	1340	1640	1780	89	1920	2220	2000
	APR-SEP	1370	1730	1890	89	2050	2410	2120
FLATHEAD at Columbia Falls (2)	APR-JUL	3830	4370	4740	89	5110	5650	5350
	APR-SEP	4170	4760	5160	89	5560	6150	5820
STILLWATER nr Whitefish	APR-JUL	120	157	182	95	205	245	192
APR-SEP 133 173		200	95	225	265	210		
WHITEFISH nr Kalispell	APR-JUL	71	85	95	94	105	119	101
	APR-SEP	79	96	107	94	118	135	114
ASHLEY CREEK nr Marion (2)	APR-JUL	2.51	3.10	4.30	60	5.50	7.30	7.20
	MARCH			0.75	71			1.06
SWAN RIVER nr Bigfork	APR-JUL	365	430	470	83	510	575	565
	APR-SEP	410	480	530	82	580	650	645
Flathead Lake inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	4400	5170	5520	89	5870	6640	6180
	APR-SEP	4400	5490	5990	89	6490	7580	6700

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
CAMAS (4)	45.2	7.7	17.0	22.1
LOWER JOCKO LAKE	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.1
MISSION VALLEY (8)	100.0	25.5	27.9	36.3
HUNGRY HORSE	3451.0	2441.0	2362.0	2047.6
FLATHEAD LAKE	1791.0	776.7	1145.0	802.7

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

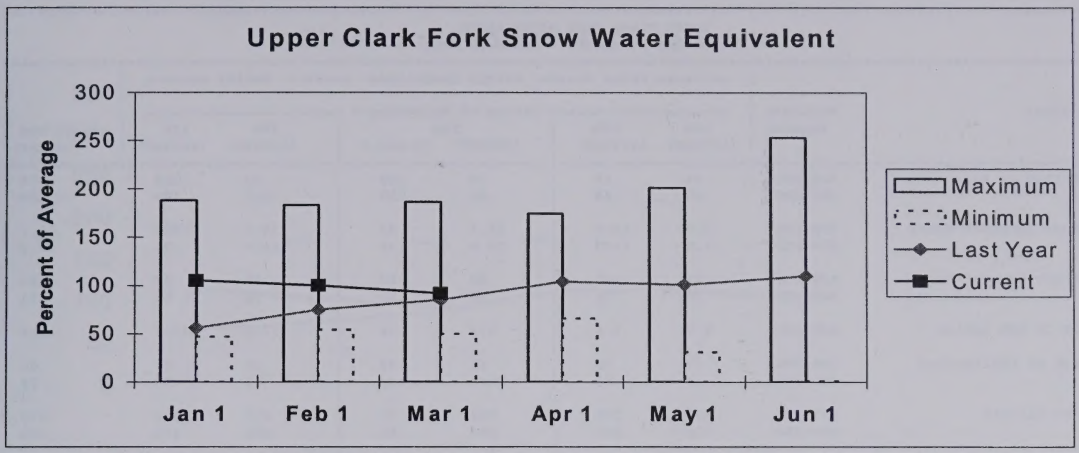
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
NF FLATHEAD in CANADA	1	158	85
NF FLATHEAD in MONTANA	9	126	93
MIDDLE FORK FLATHEAD	6	133	87
SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD	7	132	93
STILLWATER-WHITEFISH	10	136	94
SWAN	7	121	89
MISSION VALLEY	4	127	91
LITTLE BITTERROOT-ASHLEY	6	161	88
JOCKO	5	121	86
FLATHEAD in MONTANA	40	131	91
FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN	41	132	91

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

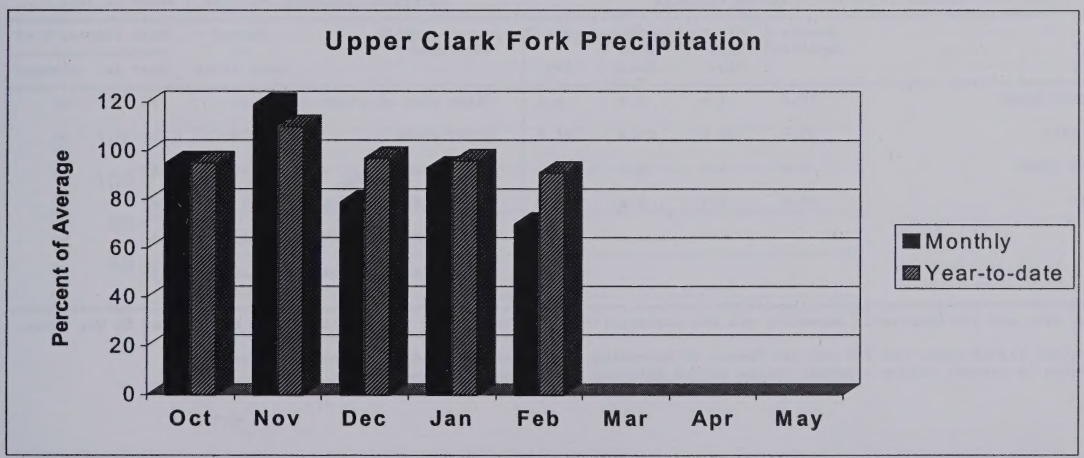
Upper Clark Fork River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin were below average and decreased 8 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 92 percent of average and 109 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1994; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1987. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 69 percent of average and 61 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 79 percent of average and 45 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 91 percent of average and 111 percent of last year.



East Fork Rock Creek was 64 percent of average and 102 percent of last year; Georgetown Lake was 108 percent of average and 97 percent of last year; Lower Willow Creek storage was 70 percent of average and 61 percent of last year; and Nevada Creek storage was 90 percent of average and 69 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 89 percent to 105 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.5 in the Clark Fork River above Milltown; -0.3 in the Blackfoot River; and -0.9 in the Clark Fork River above Missoula.

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
LITTLE BLACKFOOT nr Garrison	APR-JUL	34	59	76	100	93	118	76
	APR-SEP	39	66	84	100	102	129	84
FLINT CREEK nr Southern Cross	APR-JUL	6.0	10.0	12.8	93	15.6	19.6	13.7
	APR-SEP	6.5	11.6	15.0	93	18.4	23	16.2
FLINT CREEK blw Boulder Ck	APR-JUL	24	40	50	89	60	76	56
	APR-SEP	33	52	64	90	76	95	71
LOWER WILLOW CK RES Inflow	APR-JUL	4.2	7.6	9.9	79	12.2	15.6	12.5
MF ROCK CREEK nr Philipsburg	APR-JUL	37	48	56	88	64	75	64
	APR-SEP	43	56	64	89	72	85	72
ROCK CREEK nr Clinton	APR-JUL	149	205	240	89	275	330	270
	APR-SEP	170	230	270	89	310	370	305
CLARK FORK abv Milltown	APR-JUL	250	410	520	86	630	790	605
	APR-SEP	305	485	605	86	725	905	705
NEVADA CREEK nr Helmville	APR-JUL	7.6	12.0	14.9	86	17.8	22	17.3
BLACKFOOT RIVER nr Bonner	APR-JUL	455	595	690	86	785	925	805
	APR-SEP	515	665	765	86	865	1015	890
CLARK FORK abv Missoula	APR-JUL	840	1060	1210	86	1360	1580	1410
	APR-SEP	960	1210	1370	86	1530	1780	1600

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
EAST FORK ROCK CREEK	15.6	6.0	5.9	9.4
GEORGETOWN LAKE	31.0	28.8	29.8	26.6
LOWER WILLOW CREEK	4.9	1.4	2.3	2.0
NEVADA CREEK	12.6	4.7	6.8	5.2

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

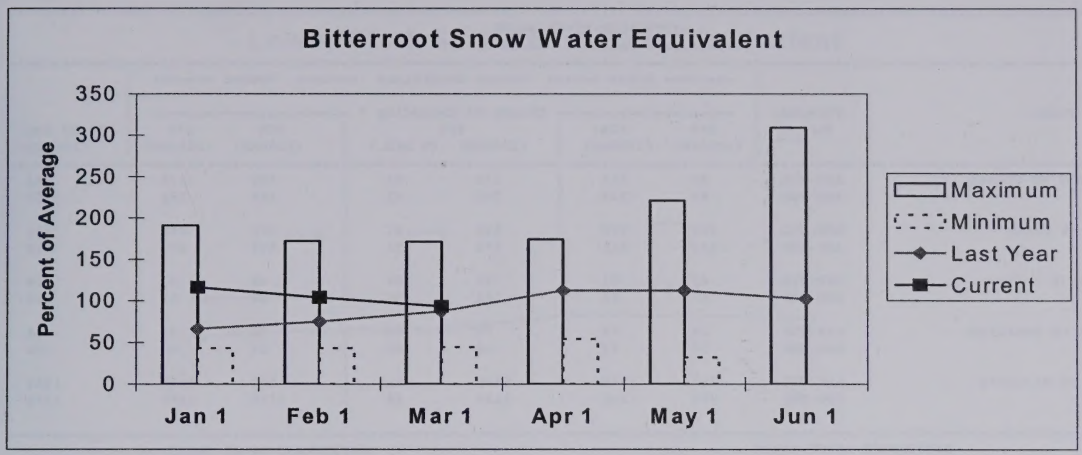
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
CLARK FORK ab FLINT CREEK	14	96	91
FLINT CREEK	6	89	93
ROCK CREEK	5	92	86
CLARK FORK ab BLACKFOOT	22	95	90
BLACKFOOT	16	130	93
UPPER CLARK FORK BASIN	36	109	92

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

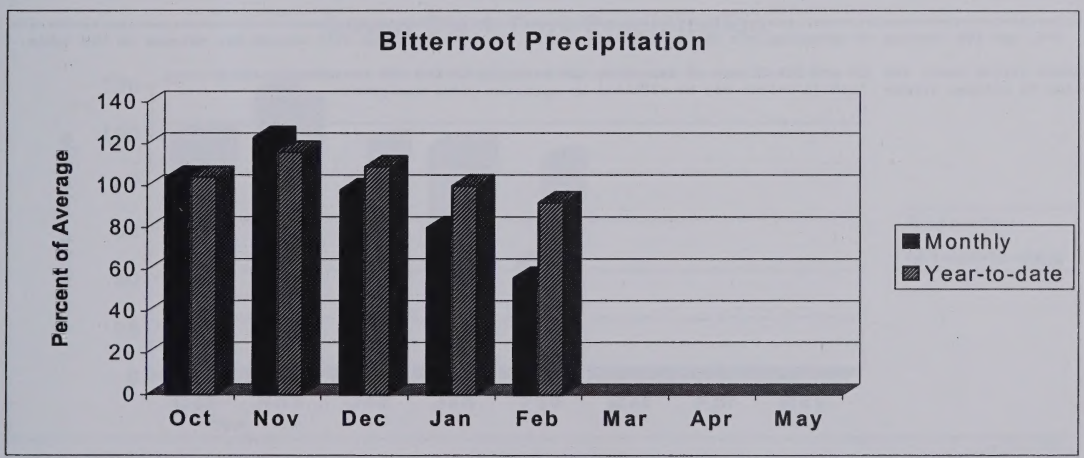
Bitterroot River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Bitterroot River Basin were below average and decreased 11 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 93 percent of average and 107 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 2001; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was 1972 and 1974 and minimum swe was in 1987, 1992, 1994, and 2001. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 55 percent of average and 51 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 71 percent of average and 42 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 92 percent of average and 104 percent of last year.



Painted Rocks Lake storage was 74 percent of average and 93 percent of last year and Como storage was 63 percent of average and 93 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 92 percent to 102 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.1 in the Bitterroot River.

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
WF BITTERROOT nr Conner (2)	APR-JUL	89	116	134	94	152	179	143
	APR-SEP	94	124	145	92	166	194	157
BITTERROOT nr Darby	APR-JUL	295	370	420	91	470	545	460
	APR-SEP	340	415	470	91	525	600	515
COMO RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	63	71	77	99	83	91	78
	APR-SEP	67	75	81	99	87	95	82
SKALKAHO CK nr Hamilton	APR-JUL	25	33	39	89	45	53	44
	APR-SEP	30	39	45	90	51	60	50
BITTERROOT at Missoula	APR-JUL	880	1010	1100	88	1190	1320	1250
	APR-SEP	970	1110	1210	88	1310	1450	1370

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
PAINTED ROCKS LAKE	31.7	5.2	5.6	7.0
COMO	34.9	8.2	8.8	13.1

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

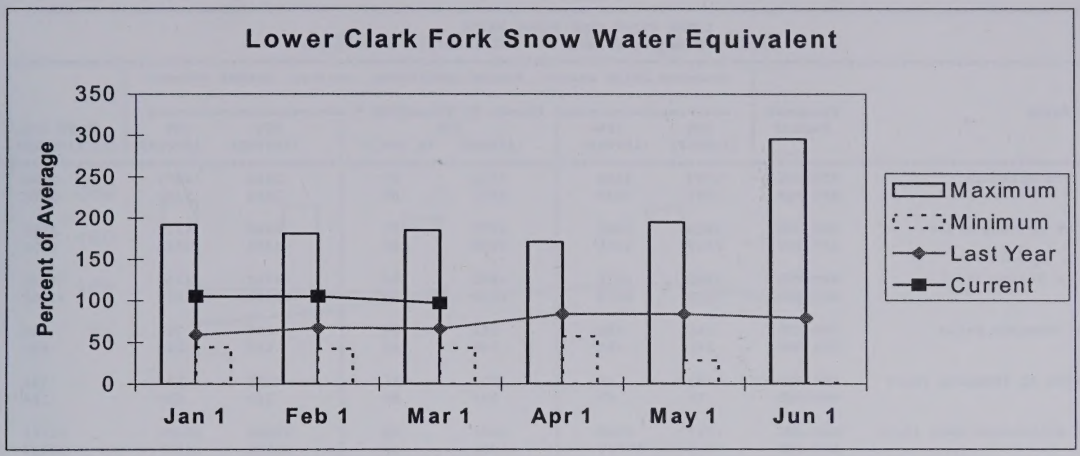
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
WEST FORK BITTERROOT	3	103	90
EAST SIDE BITTERROOT	5	94	89
WEST SIDE BITTERROOT	3	118	97
BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN	10	107	93

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

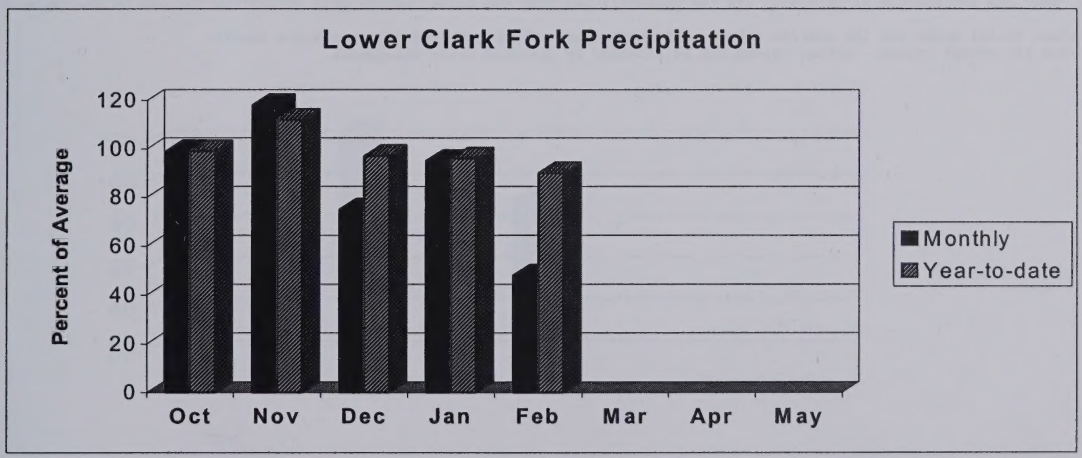
Lower Clark Fork River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Lower Clark Fork River Basin were near average and decreased 8 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 97 percent of average and 146 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 49 percent of average and 74 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 42 percent of average and 68 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 90 percent of average and 122 percent of last year.



Noxon Rapids storage was 110 percent of average and 106 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 87 percent to 97 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.7 in the Clark Fork River below Bitterroot River and -1.1 in the Clark Fork River below Flathead River.

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
CLARK FORK blw Missoula	APR-JUL	1750	2080	2310	87	2540	2870	2660
	APR-SEP	1960	2320	2570	87	2820	3180	2960
CLARK FORK at St. Regis (1)	APR-JUL	1810	2680	3070	87	3460	4330	3520
	APR-SEP	2010	2970	3410	87	3850	4810	3910
CLARK FORK nr Plains (1,2)	APR-JUL	6360	8070	8850	88	9630	11340	10100
	APR-SEP	6990	8870	9730	88	10590	12470	11100
THOMPSON nr Thompson Falls	APR-JUL	126	159	181	88	201	236	205
	APR-SEP	147	182	205	89	230	265	230
PROSPECT CREEK at Thompson Falls	APR-JUL	72	89	100	86	111	128	116
	APR-SEP	78	95	107	86	119	136	124
CLARK FK at Whitehorse Rpds (1,2)	APR-JUL	7060	9030	9920	88	10810	12780	11300
	APR-SEP	7850	10020	11000	88	11980	14150	12500

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
NOXON RAPIDS	335.0	326.6	307.0	297.5

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

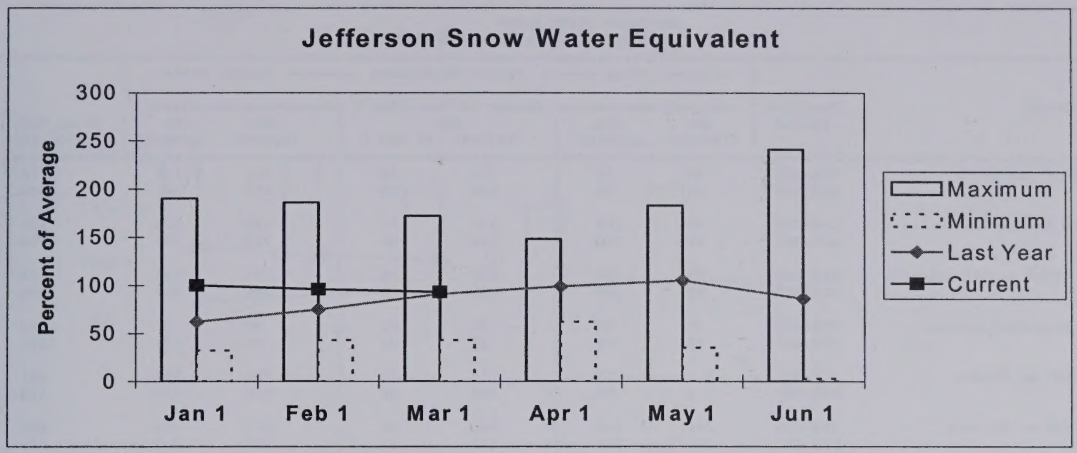
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
LOWER CLARK FORK BASIN	12	146	97

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

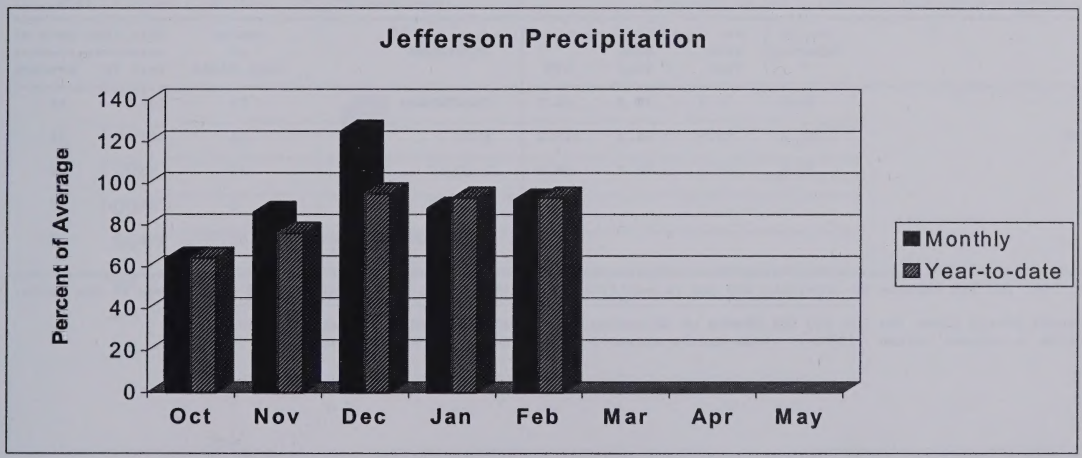
Jefferson River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Jefferson River Basin were below average and increased 3 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 93 percent of average and 102 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 89 percent of average and 74 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 92 percent of average and 41 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 92 percent of average and 111 percent of last year.



Lima storage was 23 percent of average and 58 percent of last year; Clark Canyon storage was 34 percent of average and 86 percent of last year; and Ruby River storage was 85 percent of average and 90 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 75 percent to 95 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.9 in the Beaverhead River; -1.9 in the Ruby River; -0.8 in the Big Hole River; -1.0 in the Boulder River; and -1.5 in the Jefferson River as a whole.

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
LIMA RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	52	78	95	99	112	138	96
	APR-SEP	53	82	102	98	122	151	104
CLARK CANYON Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	80	104	120	92	136	160	131
	APR-SEP	87	118	140	90	162	193	156
BEAVERHEAD RIVER at Barretts (2)	APR-JUL	75	123	155	92	187	235	168
	APR-SEP	89	146	185	93	224	279	200
RUBY RIVER Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	41	58	69	82	80	97	84
	APR-SEP	51	69	82	81	95	113	101
BIG HOLE RIVER at Wisdom	APR-JUL	9.0	72	115	95	158	219	121
	APR-SEP	7.0	76	122	94	168	235	130
BIG HOLE RIVER nr Melrose	APR-JUL	360	495	585	96	675	810	610
	APR-SEP	390	535	635	96	735	880	660
BOULDER RIVER nr Boulder	APR-JUL	32	58	75	96	92	118	78
	APR-SEP	34	62	81	95	100	128	85
WILLOW CREEK Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	6.6	13.8	18.6	104	24	31	17.9
	APR-SEP	7.1	15.4	21	105	27	35	20
JEFFERSON RIVER nr Three Forks (2)	APR-JUL	440	635	770	99	905	1100	780
	APR-SEP	490	700	840	98	980	1190	860

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LIMA	84.0	8.2	14.2	35.7
CLARK CANYON	255.6	48.4	56.3	144.2
RUBY RIVER	38.8	23.2	25.7	27.4

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

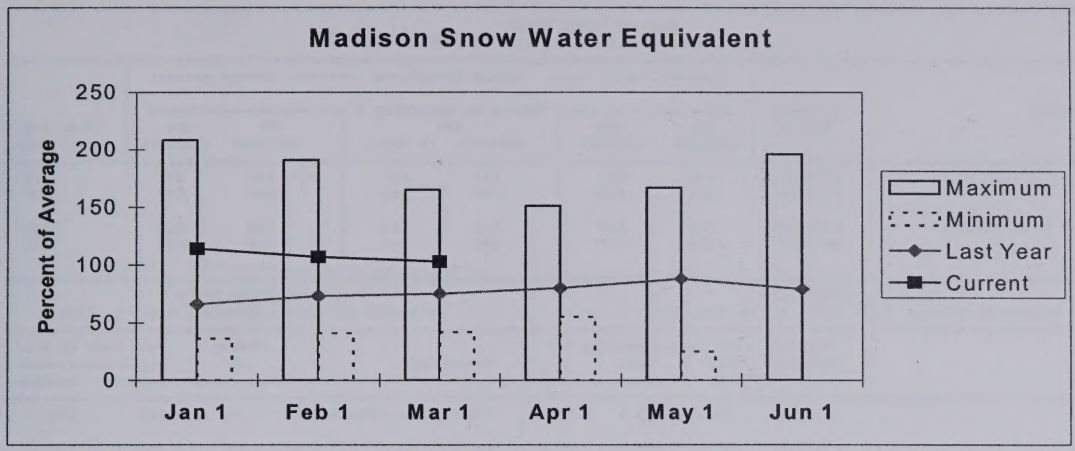
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
BEAVERHEAD	16	106	94
RUBY	11	113	98
BIGHOLE	15	90	86
BOULDER	9	95	93
JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN	43	102	93

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

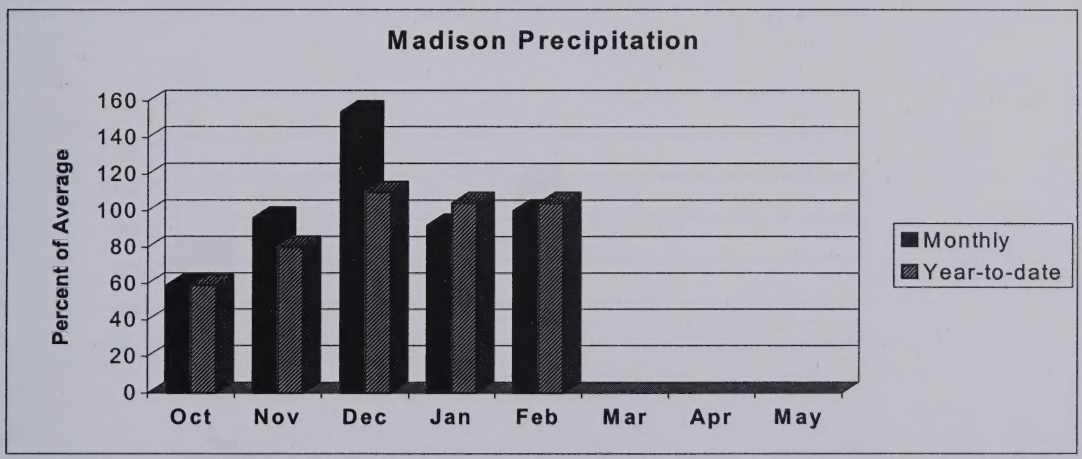
Madison River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Madison River Basin were near average and decreased 4 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 103 percent of average and 137 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1995 and minimum in 2001. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain and valley precipitation during February was 100 percent of average and 112 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 104 percent of average and 138 percent of last year.



Ennis Lake storage was 93 percent of average and 104 percent of last year and Hebgen Lake storage was 107 percent of average and 99 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 96 percent to 104 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was +0.2 for the Madison River.

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
HEBGEN Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	340	385	415	106	445	490	390
	APR-SEP	445	495	530	106	565	615	500
ENNIS Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	560	635	685	101	735	810	680
	APR-SEP	700	790	850	100	910	1000	850

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
ENNIS LAKE	41.0	29.2	28.2	31.4
HEBGEN LAKE	377.5	283.9	286.3	265.2

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

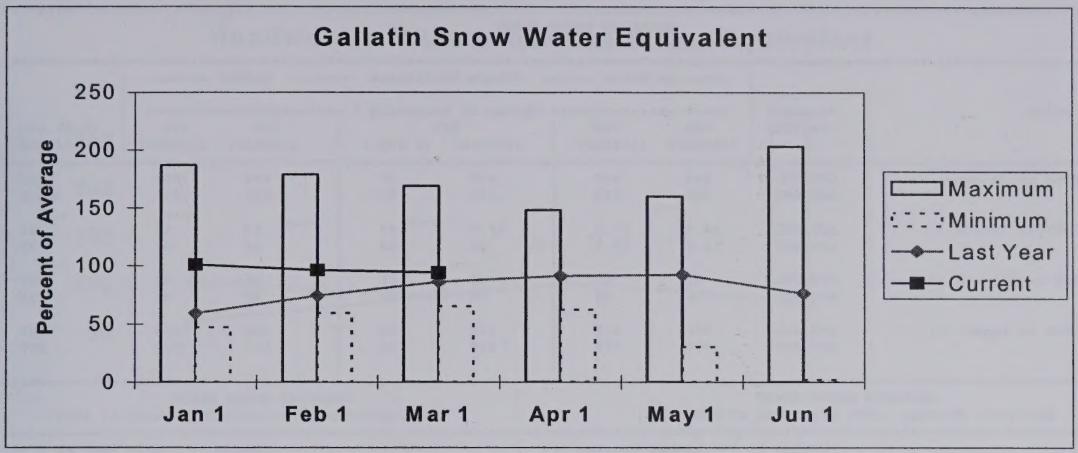
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
MADISON abv HEBGEN LAKE	6	151	108
MADISON blw HEBGEN LAKE	12	129	100
MADISON RIVER BASIN	18	138	103

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

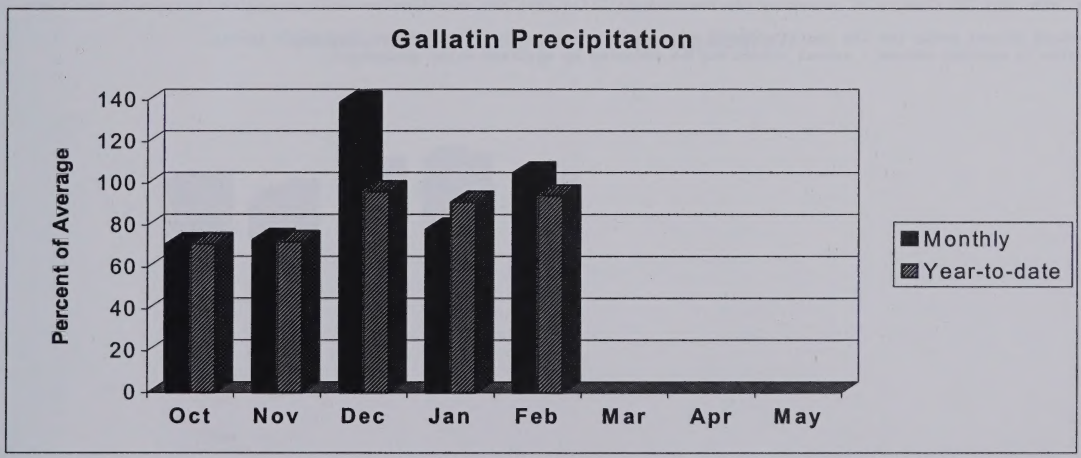
Gallatin River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Gallatin River Basin were below average and decreased 2 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 94 percent of average and 110 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1966; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977 and 1987; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 2001; May maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum in 2001. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 103 percent of average and 78 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 151 percent of average and 90 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 94 percent of average and 119 percent of last year.



Middle Creek storage was 133 percent of average and 103 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 84 percent to 94 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.2 for the Gallatin River.

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
GALLATIN RIVER nr Gateway	APR-JUL	345	400	435	99	470	525	440
	APR-SEP	405	470	510	99	550	615	515
HYALITE RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	14.5	17.5	19.6	89	22	25	22
	APR-SEP	16.6	19.8	22	88	24	27	25
HYALITE CREEK nr Bozeman (2)	APR-JUL	22	27	31	91	35	40	34
	APR-SEP	26	32	36	92	40	46	39
GALLATIN RIVER at Logan (2)	APR-JUL	310	415	485	98	555	660	495
	APR-SEP	370	485	565	99	645	760	570

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
MIDDLE CREEK	10.2	6.0	5.8	4.5

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

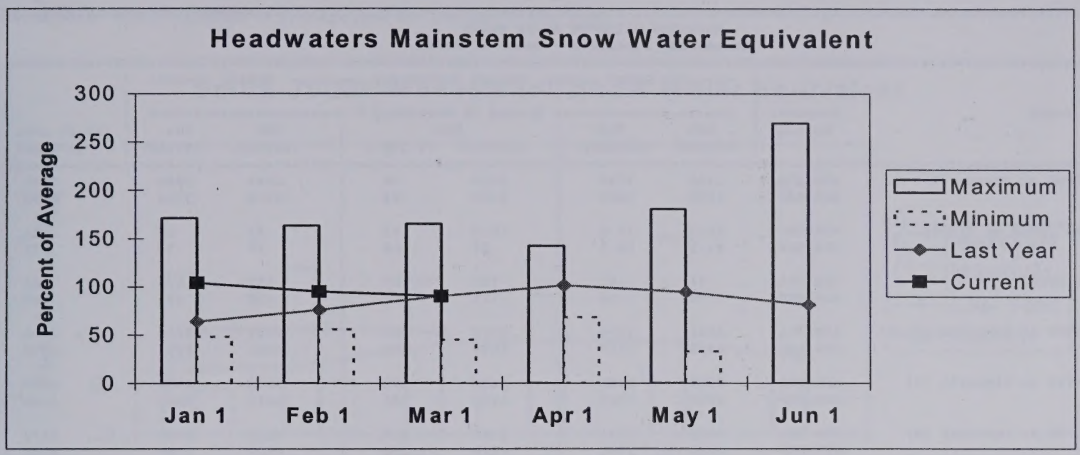
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
UPPER GALLATIN	7	128	98
HYALITE	4	90	86
BRIDGER	3	94	96
GALLATIN RIVER BASIN	14	110	94

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

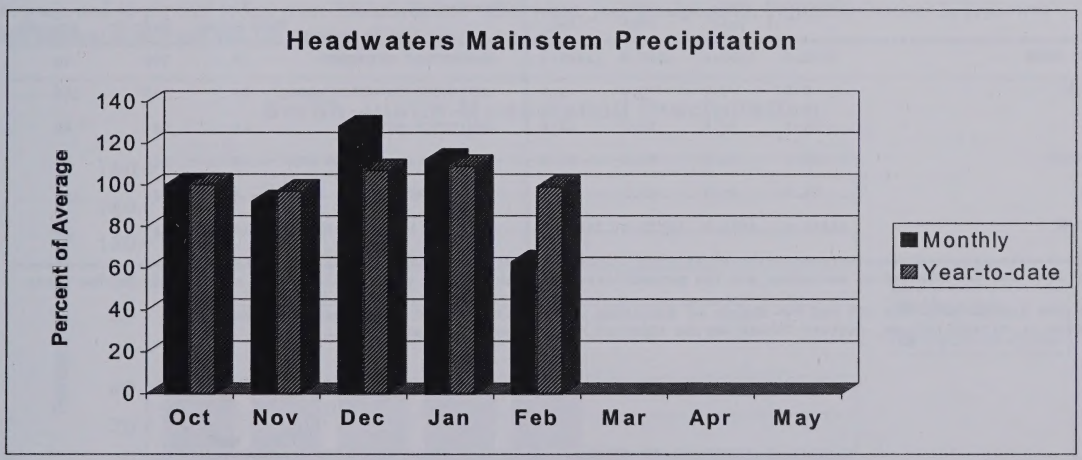
Missouri Mainstem River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Headwaters Missouri Mainstem River Basin were below average and decreased 5 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 90 percent of average and 100 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1961 and 1966; May maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 74 percent of average and 48 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 40 percent of average and 31 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 99 percent of average and 120 percent of last year.



Canyon Ferry Lake storage was 92 percent of average and 88 percent of last year; Helena Valley storage was 110 percent of average and 88 percent of last year; Lake Helena storage was 81 percent of average and 100 percent of last year; Hauser & Helena storage was 117 percent of average and 100 percent of last year; Holter Lake storage was 105 percent of average and 100 percent of last year; and Fort Peck Lake storage was 65 percent of average and 90 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 83 percent to 98 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.6 in the Missouri River above Canyon Ferry; -0.6 in the Missouri River below Canyon Ferry; -0.7 in the Missouri River above Fort Peck; and -3.9 in the Missouri River below Fort Peck.

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
MISSOURI RIVER at Toston (2)	APR-JUL	1340	1740	2010	98	2280	2680	2050
	APR-SEP	1570	2030	2350	98	2670	3130	2390
PRICKLY PEAR CREEK nr Clancy	APR-JUL	10.1	15.4	19.0	91	23	28	21
	APR-SEP	12.5	18.7	23	92	27	34	25
DEARBORN nr Craig	APR-JUL	42	87	117	97	147	192	121
	APR-SEP	48	94	125	100	156	204	125
MISSOURI RIVER at Fort Benton (2)	APR-JUL	2011	2594	2990	100	3387	3967	2990
	APR-SEP	2390	3107	3580	100	4051	4750	3570
MISSOURI RIVER at Virgelle (2)	APR-JUL	2480	3023	3480	101	3935	4760	3450
	APR-SEP	2880	3562	4100	101	4636	5560	4060
MISSOURI RIVER nr Landusky (2)	APR-JUL	2482	3201	3690	100	4180	4900	3690
	APR-SEP	2960	3754	4330	100	4906	5790	4350
MISSOURI RIVER below Fort Peck (2)	APR-JUL	2590	3284	3780	101	4276	5050	3740
	APR-SEP	2990	3806	4380	101	4956	5890	4330
LAKE SAKAKAWEA Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	6160	8059	9350	96	10644	12544	9740
	APR-SEP	7132	9316	10800	96	12281	14471	11200

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
CANYON FERRY LAKE	2043.0	1385.0	1575.0	1509.4
HELENA VALLEY	9.2	4.4	5.0	4.0
LAKE HELENA	10.4	10.9	10.9	13.4
HAUSER & HELENA	61.9	74.0	74.0	63.0
HOLTER LAKE	81.9	81.3	81.1	77.6
FORT PECK LAKE	18910.0	9606.0	10720.0	14728.0

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

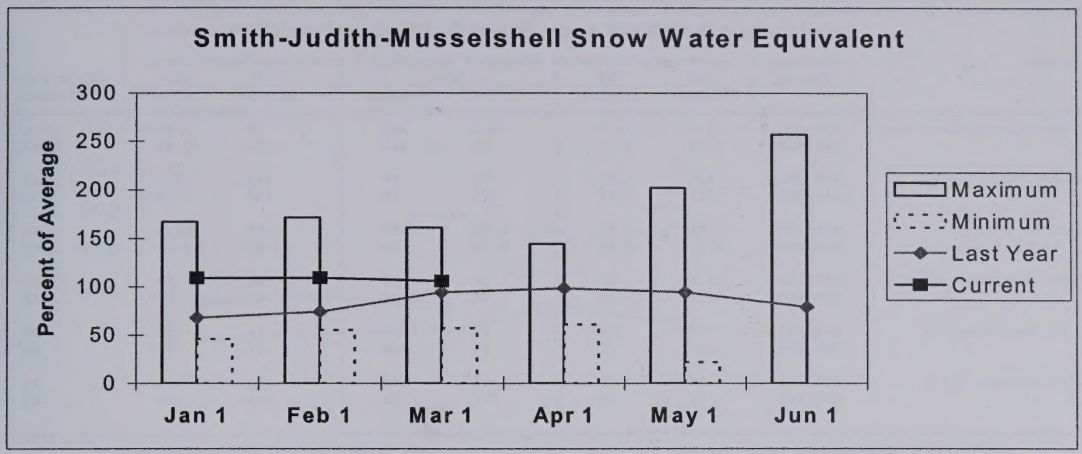
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
HEADWATERS MAINSTEM	9	100	90
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	14	113	106
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	13	154	82
MAINSTEM ab FT PECK RES	35	124	92
MILK RIVER BASIN	4	244	164
MISSOURI MAINSTEM BASIN	38	127	95

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

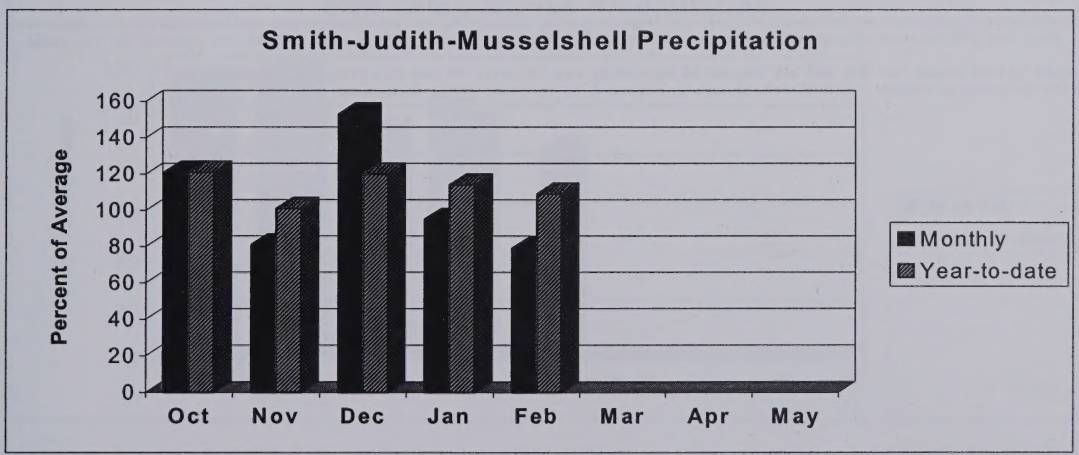
Smith-Judith-Musselshell River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the Smith-Judith-Musselshell River Basins were slightly above average and decreased 3 percent from February 1. Snow water content in the Smith River Basin was 97 percent of average and 108 percent of last year; in the Judith River Basin was 113 percent of average and 116 percent of last year; and in the Musselshell Basin River was 99 percent of average and 114 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1987; March maximum swe was in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1987; April maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1992; and May maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was in 1967 and minimum swe was in 1987, 1992, 1994, and 2001. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain and valley precipitation during February in the Smith-Belts was 73 percent of average and 50 percent of last year; in the Judith was 94 percent of average and 53 percent of last year; and in the Musselshell was 59 percent of average and 40 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 109 percent of average and 131 percent of last year.



Smith River storage was 74 percent of average and 107 percent of last year; Bair storage was 48 percent of average and 106 percent of last year; Martinsdale storage was 26 percent of average and 270 percent of last year; and Deadman's Basin was 37 percent of average and 100 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 86 percent to 103 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.2 in the Smith River and +0.1 in the Musselshell River.

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
SHEEP CREEK nr White Sulphur Spgs.	APR-JUL	13.2	16.1	18.1	106	20	23	17.1
	APR-SEP	15.4	18.7	21	105	23	27	20
SMITH RIVER abv Eagle Creek	APR-JUL	120	151	172	98	193	224	175
	APR-SEP	139	178	205	98	230	270	210
NF MUSSELSHELL nr Delpine	APR-JUL	2.40	3.90	4.90	107	5.90	7.40	4.60
	APR-SEP	2.90	4.60	5.70	106	6.80	8.50	5.40
SF MUSSELSHELL abv Martinsdale	APR-JUL	16.2	36	50	96	64	84	52
	APR-SEP	18.1	39	54	96	69	90	56
MUSSELSHELL at Harlowton (2)	APR-JUL	50	68	81	105	94	112	77
	APR-SEP	52	71	84	104	97	116	81
MUSSELSHELL nr Roundup (2)	APR-JUL	65	90	106	107	122	147	99
	APR-SEP	66	90	107	105	124	148	102

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
SMITH RIVER	10.6	4.9	4.6	6.6
BAIR	7.0	1.9	1.8	4.0
MARTINSDALE	23.1	2.7	1.0	10.2
DEADMAN'S BASIN	72.2	18.2	18.2	49.8

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

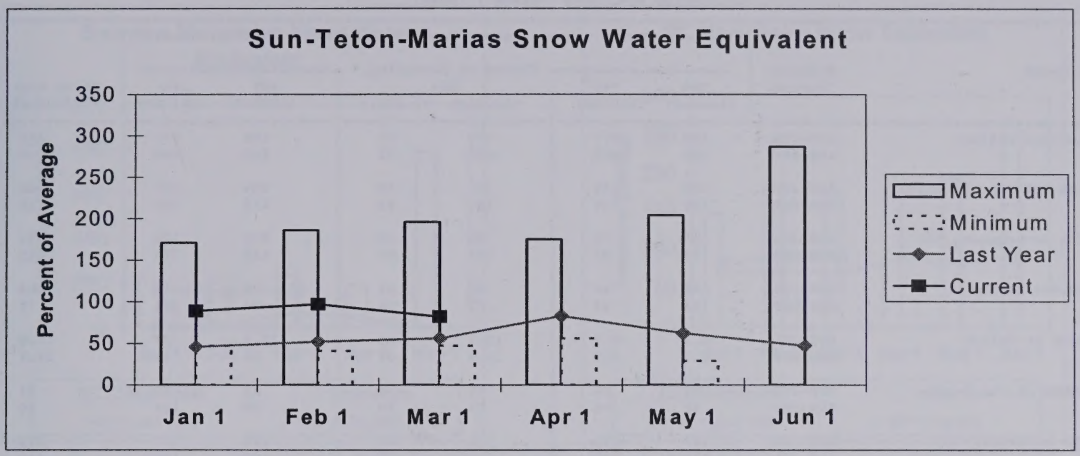
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
SMITH	8	108	97
JUDITH	6	116	113
MUSSELSHELL	5	114	99
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	14	113	106

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

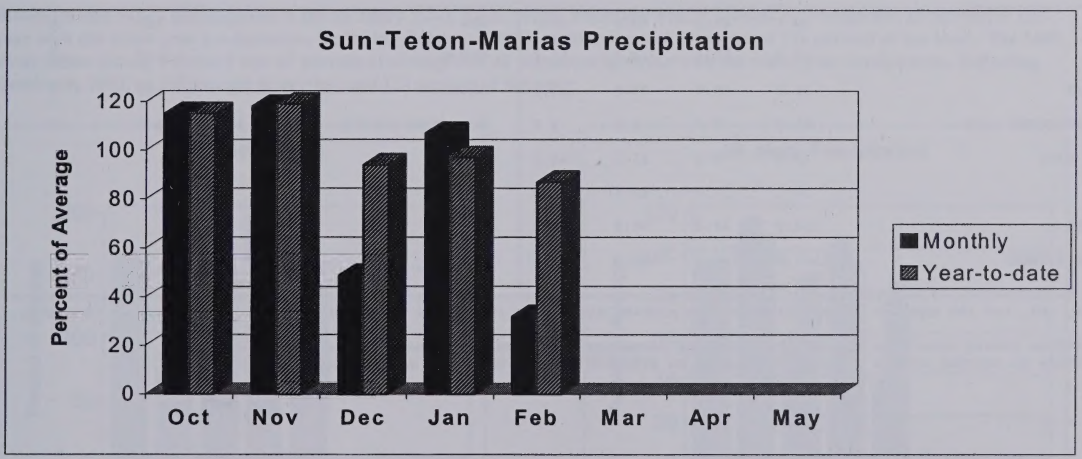
Sun-Teton-Marias River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the Sun-Teton-Marias River Basins were below average and decreased 15 percent from February 1. Snow water content in the Sun River Basin was 89 percent of average and 169 percent of last year; in the Teton River Basin was 82 percent of average and 152 percent of last year; and in the Marias River Basin was 77 percent of average and 147 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 2001; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1984; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1984; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1987, 1992, and 1998. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain and valley precipitation during February in the Sun was 35 percent of average and 35 percent of last year; in the Teton was 33 percent of average and 38 percent of last year; and in the Marias was 31 percent of average and 38 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 87 percent of average and 137 percent of last year.



Gibson storage was 48 percent of average and 54 percent of last year; Pishkun storage was 108 percent of average and 97 percent of last year; Willow Creek storage was 85 percent of average and 64 percent of last year; Lower Two Medicine Lake storage was 0 percent of average and 0 percent of last year; Four Horns Lake storage was 2 percent of average and 2 percent of last year; Swift storage was 105 percent of average and 99 percent of last year; Lake Frances storage was 38 percent of average and 28 percent of last year; and Lake Elwell (Tiber) storage was 115 percent of average and 97 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 66 percent to 85 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.9 in the Sun River; -1.3 in the Teton River; -2.4 in the Birch/Dupuyer Creeks; and -2.1 in the Marias River above Tiber Reservoir; and -1.7 in the Marias River below Tiber Reservoir.

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	305	375	420	91	465	535	460
	APR-SEP	350	420	465	92	510	580	505
TWO MEDICINE RIVER nr Browning	APR-JUL	102	145	174	85	204	244	205
	APR-SEP	112	156	185	86	214	259	215
BADGER CREEK nr Browning (2)	APR-JUL	52	73	88	89	103	124	99
	APR-SEP	65	87	103	90	119	141	115
SWIFT RESERVOIR Inflow	APR-JUL	32	49	60	94	71	88	64
	APR-SEP	43	60	72	94	84	101	77
DUPUYER CREEK nr Valier	APR-JUL	0.3	5.7	12.1	86	18.5	28	14.0
	APR-SEP	0.3	6.7	13.6	87	21	31	15.7
CUT BANK CREEK at Cut Bank	APR-JUL	41	58	69	85	80	97	81
	APR-SEP	46	64	77	86	90	108	90
MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby (2)	APR-JUL	190	285	345	83	405	500	415
	APR-SEP	210	305	365	83	425	520	440
TETON nr Dutton	APR-JUL	1.5	20	35	69	50	73	51
	APR-SEP	3.5	23	39	66	55	78	59

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
GIBSON	99.1	23.8	44.0	49.7
PISHKUN	32.0	19.0	19.5	17.6
WILLOW CREEK	32.2	19.5	30.5	23.0
LOWER TWO MEDICINE LAKE	11.9	0.0	4.5	8.9
FOUR HORNS LAKE	19.2	0.2	11.1	12.0
SWIFT	30.0	17.4	17.6	16.5
LAKE FRANCES	112.0	25.5	90.5	66.8
LAKE ELWELL (TIBER)	1347.0	729.1	749.2	631.9

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

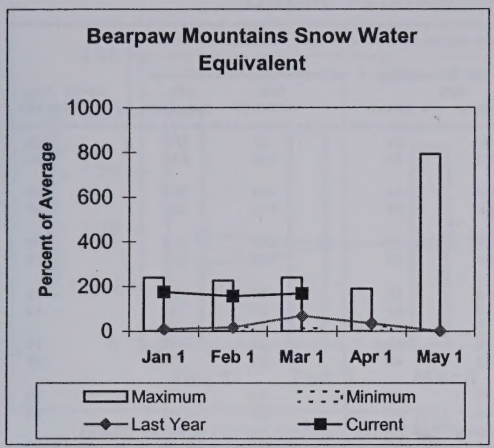
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
SUN	6	169	89
TETON	4	152	82
MARIAS	6	147	77
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	14	149	82

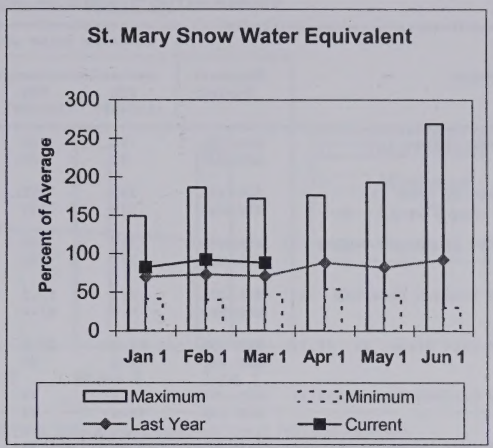
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

St. Mary and Milk River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the St. Mary and Milk River Basins were above average and decreased 4 percent from February 1. Snow water content in the Saint Mary River Basin was 88 percent of average and 128 percent of last year. The Bearpaw Mountains were 164 percent of average and 244 percent of last year. The Cypress Hills in Canada were 165 percent of average and 247 percent of last year.

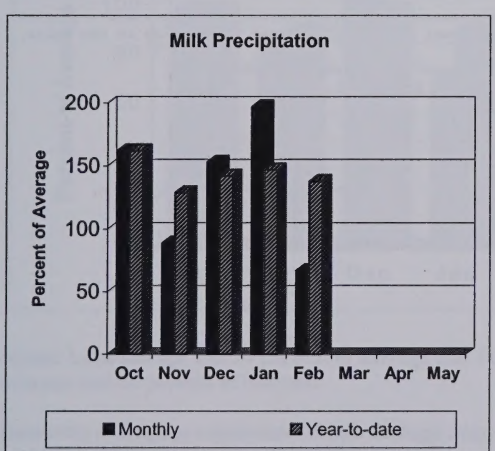


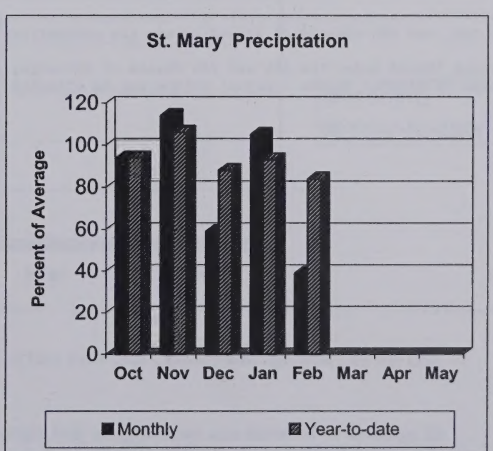


Bearpaw - January maximum swe was established in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1981; February maximum swe was 1978 and minimum was in 1973; March maximum swe was 1978 and minimum swe was 1995; April maximum swe was in 1985 and minimum swe was in 1973, 1983, and 1986; May maximum swe was 1975 and the minimum, 0.0, has occurred in several years. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

St. Mary - January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 2001; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1967 and 1972 and minimum swe was in 2001; May maximum swe was in 19972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was 1992. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain and valley precipitation in the St. Mary River Basin during February was 39 percent of average and 69 percent of last year with the water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, at 84 percent of average and 126 percent of last year. The Milk River Basin during February was 67 percent of average and 42 percent of last year with the water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, at 138 percent of average and 171 percent of last year.





Lake Sherburne storage was 57 percent of average and 118 percent of last year; Fresno storage was 28 percent of average and 31 percent of last year; Beaver Creek storage was 96 percent of average and 79 percent of last year; and Nelson storage was 76 percent of average and 66 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 59 percent to 71 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -3.3 for the Milk River.

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
LAKE SHERBURNE Inflow	APR-JUL	78	86	92	88	98	106	105
	APR-SEP	91	100	107	88	114	123	122
ST. MARY RIVER nr Babb (2)	APR-JUL	285	315	340	88	365	395	385
	APR-SEP	335	375	400	89	425	465	450
ST. MARY RIVER at US/CAN Border (2)	APR-JUL	310	355	390	90	425	470	435
	APR-SEP	375	430	465	90	500	555	515
MILK RIVER @ Western Crossing (3)	MAR-JUL	9.4	13.1	18.4	45	25	37	41
	MAR-SEP	9.0	13.8	19.7	46	26	38	43
MILK RIVER @ Milk River, AB (2,3)	MAR-JUL	14.1	19.9	31	48	38	56	64
	MAR-SEP	14.6	21	33	48	41	61	69
MILK RIVER @ Eastern Crossing(2,3)	MAR-JUL	18.3	27	38	46	50	75	83
	MAR-SEP	18.4	28	41	47	53	80	88
BEAVER CREEK near Havre	MAR-JUL	3.90	6.90	8.90	93	10.90	13.90	9.60

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LAKE SHERBURNE	64.3	15.1	12.8	26.3
FRESNO	127.0	14.8	48.1	52.0
BEAVER CREEK	3.5	2.2	2.8	2.3
NELSON	66.8	25.2	38.4	33.1

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

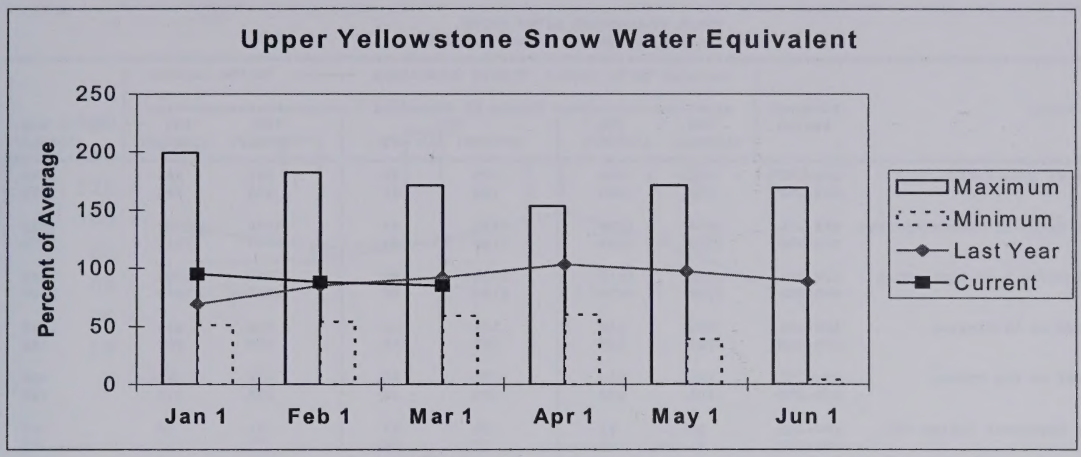
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
ST. MARY	3	128	88
BEARPAW MOUNTAINS	4	244	164
CYPRESS HILLS, CANADA	0	0	0
MILK RIVER BASIN	4	244	164
ST. MARY & MILK BASINS	7	135	101

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

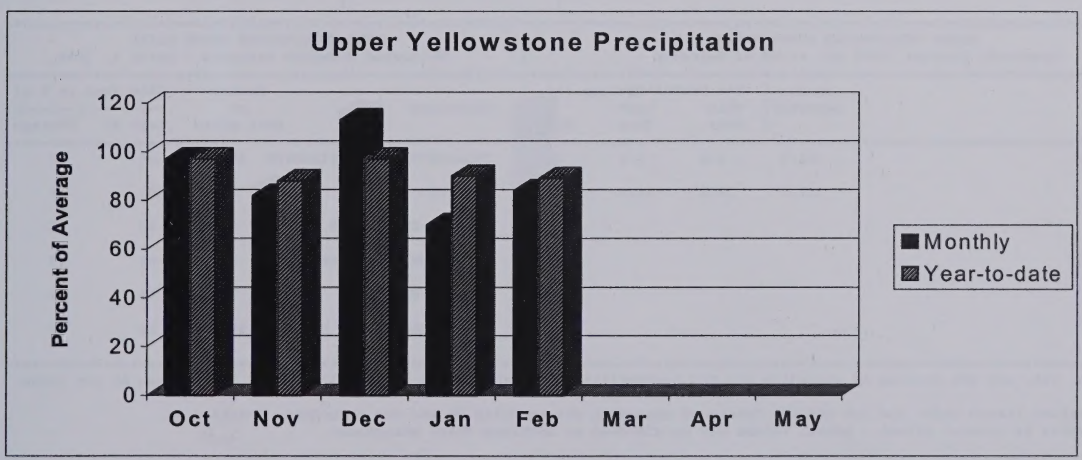
Upper Yellowstone River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Upper Yellowstone River Basin were below average and decreased 3 percent from February 1. Snow water content was 92 percent of average and 85 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 2001; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 2001; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 2001; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was 1996 and minimum swe was in 2001. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain precipitation during February was 75 percent of average and 61 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during February was 209 percent of average and 78 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 89 percent of average and 98 percent of last year.



Mystic Lake storage was 90 percent of average and 113 percent of last year and Cooney storage was 110 percent of average and 88 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 85 percent to 96 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.5 in the Yellowstone River above Livingston; -0.2 in the Shields River; -2.1 in the Boulder River; -2.2 in the Stillwater River; -1.4 in the Rock/Red lodge Creeks; -1.9 in the Clarks Fork River; and -1.2 in the Yellowstone River above Bighorn River.

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
YELLOWSTONE at Lake Outlet	APR-JUL	405	490	545	92	600	685	590
	APR-SEP	550	660	735	91	810	920	805
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Corwin Springs	APR-JUL	1290	1450	1570	95	1690	1850	1650
	APR-SEP	1550	1750	1880	95	2010	2210	1970
YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Livingston	APR-JUL	1570	1710	1810	95	1910	2050	1900
	APR-SEP	1900	2070	2180	96	2290	2460	2280
SHIELDS RIVER nr Livingston	APR-JUL	103	145	173	119	201	245	145
	APR-SEP	111	159	192	119	225	275	162
BOULDER RIVER at Big Timber	APR-JUL	192	240	270	95	300	350	285
	APR-SEP	205	255	290	92	325	375	315
MYSTIC LAKE Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	46	53	57	97	61	68	59
	APR-SEP	61	68	73	96	78	85	76
STILLWATER RIVER nr Absarokee (2)	APR-JUL	340	405	450	91	495	560	495
	APR-SEP	410	480	530	91	580	650	585
CLARKS FORK RIVER nr Belfry	APR-JUL	405	460	495	92	530	585	540
	APR-SEP	445	500	540	91	580	635	595
COONEY RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	14.9	31	42	89	53	69	47
	APR-SEP	24	41	52	91	63	80	57
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings (2)	APR-JUL	2310	2860	3230	92	3600	4150	3510
	APR-SEP	2760	3370	3810	93	4250	4890	4120

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
MYSTIC LAKE	21.0	3.6	3.2	4.0
COONEY	27.4	18.1	20.5	16.4

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

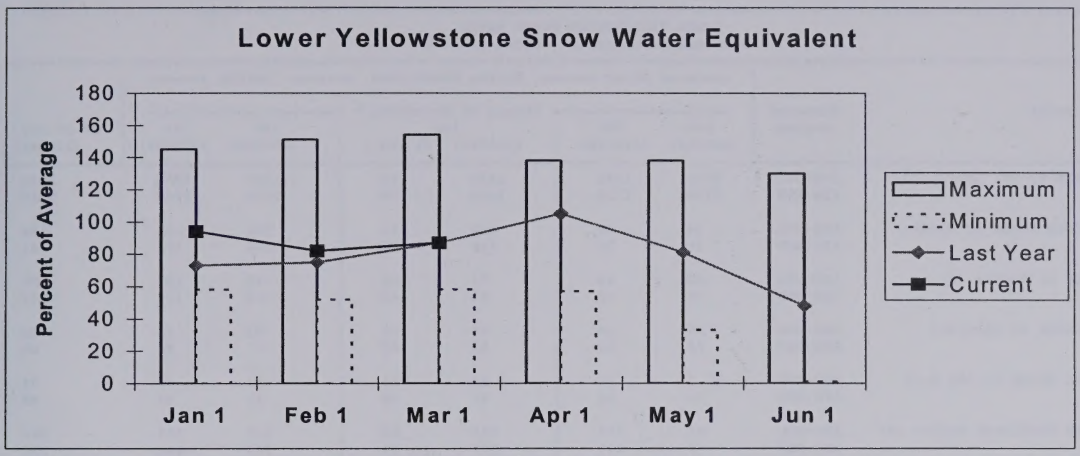
Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
YELLOWSTONE ab LIVINGSTON	18	94	83
SHIELDS	5	100	98
BOULDER-STILLWATER	4	97	86
RED LODGE-ROCK CREEK	6	81	85
CLARK'S FORK	7	84	79
UPPER YELLOWSTONE BASIN	36	92	85

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

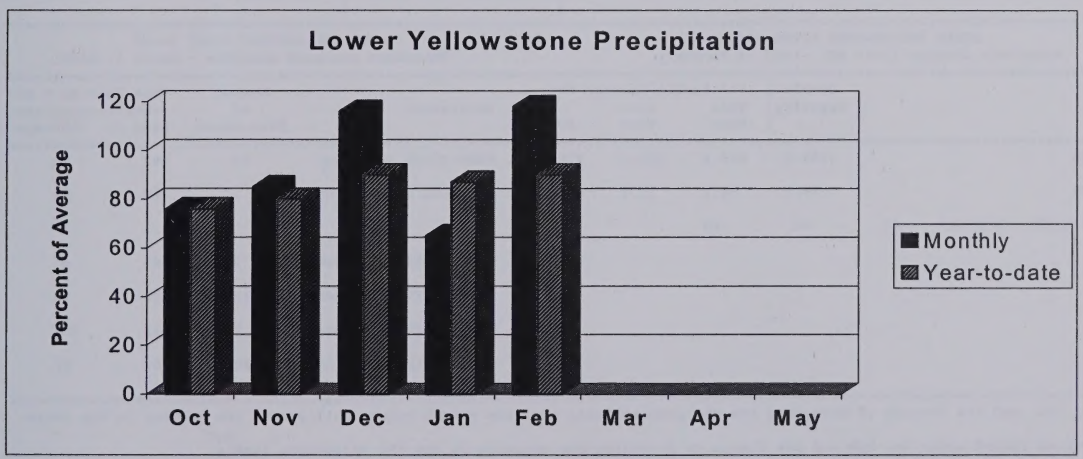
Lower Yellowstone River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Lower Yellowstone River Basin, in Wyoming, were below average. Snow water content was 87 percent of average and 100 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 2000; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 2001; March maximum swe was in 1986 and minimum swe was in 2001; April maximum swe was in 1986 and minimum swe was in 2001; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; and June maximum swe was in 1995 and minimum swe was in 2001. Average is for the period 1971 through 2000.

Mountain and valley precipitation during February was 118 percent of average and 87 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 2003, was 90 percent of average and 101 percent of last year.



Bighorn Lake storage was 83 percent of average and 115 percent of last year and Tongue River storage was 190 percent of average and 131 percent of last year.

Assuming average precipitation, March through July, April through July streamflows are forecast to average 76 percent to 90 percent.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.5 in the Bighorn River below Bighorn Lake; -2.3 in the Little Bighorn River; -1.3 in the Yellowstone River below Bighorn River; -2.2 in the Tongue River; and +0.4 in the Powder River.

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2004

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
BIGHORN RIVER nr St. Xavier (2)	APR-JUL	1010	1260	1430	89	1600	1850	1610
	APR-SEP	1100	1370	1560	89	1750	2020	1760
LITTLE BIGHORN RIVER nr Hardin	APR-JUL	54	84	104	81	124	154	128
	APR-SEP	64	96	118	82	140	172	144
TONGUE RIVER nr Dayton (2)	APR-JUL	51	68	79	82	90	107	96
	APR-SEP	61	79	91	84	103	121	109
BIG GOOSE CREEK nr Sheridan	APR-JUL	20	34	43	83	52	66	52
	APR-SEP	28	42	51	85	60	74	60
LITTLE GOOSE CREEK nr Big Horn	APR-JUL	17.7	24	29	85	34	40	34
	APR-SEP	23	31	36	86	41	49	42
TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	81	137	175	80	213	267	220
	APR-SEP	97	156	197	79	240	295	250
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Miles City (2)	APR-JUL	3420	4250	4820	90	5390	6220	5360
	APR-SEP	3970	4940	5600	90	6260	7230	6210
POWDER RIVER at Moorehead	APR-JUL	103	164	205	100	244	309	205
	APR-SEP	126	188	230	100	270	335	230
POWDER RIVER near Locate	APR-JUL	173	210	235	100	259	299	235
	APR-SEP	192	232	260	100	290	330	260
YELLOWSTONE RIVER nr Sidney (2)								
APR-JUL 3550 4410	4990	91	5570	6430	5480			
	APR-SEP	4050	5030	5700	91	6370	7350	6280

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
BIGHORN LAKE	1356.0	683.4	595.5	826.3
TONGUE RIVER	79.1	46.8	35.8	24.6
BIGHORN RIVER (Wyoming) 21	96	84		

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2004

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
WIND RIVER (Wyoming)	20	101	83
SHOSHONE RIVER (Wyoming)	7	85	74
LITTLE BIGHORN (Wyoming)	3	96	87
TONGUE RIVER (Wyoming)	11	102	95
POWDER RIVER (Wyoming)	9	123	101
LOWER YELLOWSTONE BASIN (	50	100	87

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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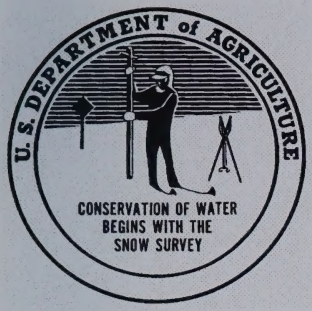
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



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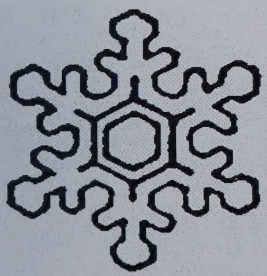
Bozeman, MT 59715



Montana
Water Supply Outlook Report

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Bozeman, MT